

## CANTON PARK COMMISSION

### BOARD MINUTES

JUNE, 2011

The Canton Board of Park Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, June 8, 2011, at the Garden Center Building.

Present were: Mr. Andy Black, President; Mr. Frank Morris III, Vice President; Mr. Wuyanbu Zutali, Member; Mr. Douglas V. Perry, Director/Secretary; and Mr. Douglas Foltz, Assistant Director. There were also a few guests.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Black first welcomed Mr. Zutali to the Board as he had been recently appointed by the Mayor. Mr. Zutali thanked Mr. Black and stated he looked forward to serving on the Board.

The first item of business was the reading of the minutes of the May 11, 2011 regular meeting. A motion was made by A. Black to approve them as written. A second was provided by F. Morris, and the motion then passed by unanimous vote.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Old Riverside Park Issues -No new activity had been noted with regard to this issue so it remained tabled.
2. Park Brochure Development - The Director reported that the Assistant Director and he had met with the Engineering Department and went over changes to the map. An extern was to work on the map; however, the externs change every 120 hours so a new one was now working on it. The Director felt that once a new map could be produced it would be ready with one more review.
3. Possible Dominion easements Reifsnnyder, Oak and Martindale Parks - The Director reported that he had not seen or heard of any easements being turned into the City.
4. Ohio Plan Playground Evaluation - The Director reported that the playground inspections had been completed. He had heard from the Ohio Plan representative who told him that he would be checking back to see what progress had been made and would be working with the Recreation District to see about their staff obtaining training for conducting playground inspections.

5. Hall of Fame Festival Expense Recovery- Mr. Black reported that a meeting with the Chamber had not as yet taken place. He told the Board that Mr. Peterson of the Recreation Board was to set up a meeting. He stated that Mr. Peterson proposed a three-way split of the money produced by the sale of seats between the two Boards and the Chamber.

Mr. Morris stated anything the Board could get to help cover our expenses would be great. Mr. Black asked "What if they say no?" Mr. Morris said he felt they should share the expense, but it would take a year to be able to do it ourselves.

Mr. Zutali stated he felt we should start by asking one-third of the money and felt that the Chamber should be made aware that there could be consequences if some arrangement could not be agreed to.

The Board gave Mr. Black the authority to act on its behalf to get what help he could to help cover the cost of moving the bleachers.

6. West Park Neighborhood Association Sign Request - The Director asked if anyone from the Association was at the meeting? There were not. Being no further information, this issue remained tabled.
7. Recycle/Ad Proposal - The Director reported that he had talked to Mr. Gordon, and he had told the Director that there was nothing new to report at this time. The issue remained tabled.
8. Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce requesting the use of Park System bleachers for the Grand Parade - Mr. Morris made a motion to allow Mr. Black to give the approval with regard to this request at his discretion based on his discussions with the Chamber. A second was provided by Mr. Black, and the motion then passed by unanimous vote.
9. Possible changes for Commission Management Employees - The Board reviewed the ordinance recently passed by City council with regard to changes in the way PERS contributions are made for management and other non-union employees of the City.

Mr. Black pointed out that although the Board has the authority to set wages and benefits as they see fit, the Board had historically done the same for its employees as the City has done.

Mr. Black made a motion to approve the same changes in PERS for Park Commission management employees as is contained in City Ordinance 80-2011 covering other like City employees. A second was provided by F. Morris, and the motion then passed by unanimous vote.

At this time Mr. Black opened the floor to anyone wishing to address the Board.

1. Ms. Alice Sarver of the O.U.R. Neighborhood Association informed the Board that their Association had received a grant to do programming for the kids this summer at the Bernard Avenue Playground. However, due to the rain, the dates had been pushed back one week.

She also informed the Board that they had applied for \$100,000 in CDBG funds to make other improvements in the park.

The Board thought the effort was good and wished them luck.

2. Ms. Amanda Stewart of SCOPP next addressed the Board. She stated that a track and field event was to take place at Malone University on the coming weekend that was being sponsored by SCOPP. She asked if the board could provide six sets of bleachers for the event. There was discussion about other places that could have been used that already had facilities in place. Mr. Morris suggesting either Don Scott or Crenshaw.

Mr. Black pointed out that the event does not fall under the Board's established policy so although it sounds like a wonderful event, the Board must respectfully decline the request.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Use Requests:
  - A. Faith Bible Church requesting to use Westbrook Park to hold their annual Vacation Bible School, July 26th-29th, 2011
  - B. Multi Development Services requesting several weeks for camps in Schreiber and Stadium Parks

The Board next took up the above use requests along with a request from Shiloh Missionary Baptist church to use Stadium park on the July 16, 2011, to hold a fund raising walk.

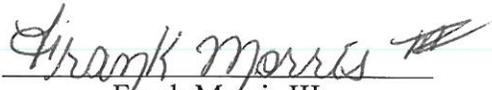
A motion was made by A. Black to approve them all with an insurance requirement. A second was provide by F. Morris, and the motion then passed by unanimous vote.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. Mr. Black stated he would be out of town for the July meeting. He asked if the Board wanted to change the date or keep it. The Board decided to just keep the date.

2. Mr. Morris reported that the Recreation Coalition did not seem to be making any progress. He stated the Stearn Center had pulled out and the YMCA thought the effort should go in another direction. Mr. Morris stated there was to be another meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup>, and he would keep the Board advised.
  
3. Mr. Zutali asked the director what was happening with regard to a complaint from the 31<sup>st</sup> area involving Reifsnyder Park. The Director stated some things that had been planned for the parking lot after Dominion finished with the new line install had been moved up and completed. Since it has slowed down on rain recently, the area had dried enough to be hedge hogged, and he now had some signs to post at the parking lot. In addition, he had contacted Dominion again, now that the rain had slowed, to see when their landscaper would be finishing the leveling and seeding work.

Being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

  
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Frank Morris III  
Vice President

  
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Douglas Perry  
Director/Secretary