

**CANTON PARK COMMISSION  
BOARD MINUTES  
MONTHLY MEETING  
NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

The Canton Board of Park Commissioners met in a regular meeting on November 12, 2015.

Attendees:

Board Members: President - Andrew Black, Member – Julie Sparks

Staff Members Present: Park Director – Derek Gordon, Assistant Park Director – Dan Kunz, Office Manager – Theresa Gang, Recreation Director – Greg Mytinger, Program Manager - Matthew McCallum

Community Members: Don Peterson III – CJRD Board Member, J.R. Rinaldi – CJRD Board Member, Ida Ross Freeman – CJRD Board Member, Dave Motts – Pro Football HOF, Jessica Miller – Atwell, John Stone, Carol Vaughn

The meeting was called to order at 4:04pm by President Black.

Meeting minutes from the October 14, 2015 Regular Meeting were reviewed by the Commissioners. President Black motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. 2015 Levy Campaign / Transition Update – Director Gordon provided information to the Commission regarding the next steps of a levy renewal and the Park and Recreation merger following the failed levy attempt of Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Director Gordon also recommended that a joint meeting between the Commission, the Joint Recreation District, and all other appropriate elected officials and community partners should be scheduled in the next few weeks to discuss the same topics. After a lengthy discussion about the multitude of potential outcomes of considerations about levy and merger strategies, Commissioner Black motioned to retroactively submit legislation to Canton City Council to file a five year, four mill levy on the March 16, 2016 Primary Election commencing in 2017 for the purposes of funding the Canton Park Commission operations by the December 16, 2015 filing deadline. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. 2016 Budget Reconsideration – In consideration of the outcome of the levy initiative, Director Gordon also asked the Commission to reconsider the 2016 capital budget allocation. While he believes that all of the expenses are appropriate, without assurances of continued operational funding past 2016, he recommended that it would be prudent to withhold the capital allocations until after the March 15, 2016 Primary Election. If this levy would fail and the subsequent General Election levy would fail the Commission would need all of these capital funds to sustain operations through the March 2017 Primary Election. The Commission stated that while they would prefer waiting to spend the capital funds until March that the outcome of the levy will not impact whether we spend capital funds in 2016.

**EVENT REQUESTS:**

1. Garaux Rental – November 28<sup>th</sup> – Rental Extension – Handy Mejia Compton has requested a one hour rental extension beyond the normal operating rental of the shelter. The Director informed the requester that this would not be possible without special consideration of the Commission. Commissioner Black motioned to approve the request. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Garaux Rental – November 13<sup>th</sup> – Disc Jockey Request – Jeremy Moore has requested the use of the Garaux Shelter for a birthday party, but would like to have a disk jockey perform. Based on past issues with rentals with live music and disc jockeys charging for admission in the facility Director Gordon has not allowed these types of rentals. This is a continuation of a policy that was in place under the previous Director. This rental

has requested a reconsideration of this policy by the Commission. Commissioner Black motioned to approve the request. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Arboretum Event Request – Commercial Shoot – Brandon Tilka of Greenpoint Pictures has requested to film a commercial for PNC Bank at Arboretum Park. Commissioner Black motioned to approve the request. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Pro Football Hall of Fame – Stadium Park Proposal – Representatives and project consultants from the Pro Football Hall of Fame (HOF) presented an overview of the HOF Village project as well as a mitigation proposal to the Commission for improvements to the raceway in Stadium Park. The HOF is required to mitigate a approximately 1000 linear feet of waterway due to the wetlands that are being built over as a result of the HOF Village project. After a thorough review and discussion regarding the mitigation project Commissioner Black motioned to approve a letter of support for the project. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Herbruck Park
  - i. Stark Fresh – Adopt-A-Park Agreement – Director Gordon explained to the Commission that in advance of a formal bid process for the lease of this property, Stark Fresh would like to adopt Herbruck Park to set up a pilot urban farm. Commissioner Black motioned to approve the request. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
  - ii. Letter of Support – Stark Fresh Grant Application – Director Gordon outlined the details of a grant award available through Scott’s and the U.S. Conference of Mayor’s to help fund the proposed urban farm installation at Herbruck Park. Stark Fresh would receive and administer these funds and is requesting a letter of support from the Commission. Commissioner Black motioned to approve the letter of support. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
3. ArtsInStark Grant Request – Director Gordon informed the Commission that a letter of inquiry had been submitted to ArtsInStark for their annual operating grant program. This same grant was received for the Mother Gooseland mural and this grant would be used to help fund collaborative art programs held in the parks as outlined in the attachment. Director Gordon requested formal approval from the Commission to apply for the grant. Commissioner Black motioned to approve the request. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Donation Approval - Holiday Lights – Mr. Jim Camp – Assistant Director Dan Kunz informed the Commission that Mr. Jim Camp has offered 15 light displays to the Parks out of his personal collection. After Mr. Kunz review of the displays it is his recommendation that the Commission accept this donation for use in the annual Holiday in the Parks display. Commissioner Black motioned to accept the donation. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Skate Park – Status Discussion – Director Gordon asked the Commission for their preference of continued support for the exploration of the installation of a skate park in one of the Canton Park properties. It is the opinion of the park administration that regardless of the location selected for the skate park that there will be a significant level of resistance, but there is a very organized group supporting the initiative and viable level of demand for such a park. Both Commissioners expressed their continued support for the initiative and look forward to considering a new proposal for a different site location.
6. OPRA Conference – Travel Request / Attendance Discussion – Director Gordon requested Commission approval for the entire park administrative staff to attend the annual OPRA conference from February 1-3. This request has already been allocated in the 2015 budget for 2016 and approval would require the office to be closed for those three days. The Joint Recreation District will be making the same request for their administrative staff at their monthly meeting. The office closure and full attendance is a one-time request that Director Gordon and Recreation Program Director Mytinger believe is a necessary professional development and team building activity. Commissioner Black motioned to approve the request. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
7. Recreation Report – Program Director Mytinger stated that both departments would be finalizing the joint program guide for the January – April in the next few weeks.

8. Financial Report – President Black motioned to approve the report. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
9. Director’s Report – Director Gordon presented his monthly report to the Commission. (See Attached)

Commissioner Sparks motioned to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters at 6:47pm. Commissioner Black seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Sparks motioned to exit Executive Session at 7:02pm. Commissioner Black seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Black motioned to adjourn at 7:03 pm. Commissioner Sparks seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

Next Park Commission Meeting is scheduled to be held at 4:00pm on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the Canton Parks and Recreation Offices.

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Andy Black, President

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Derek Gordon, Director