

AGENDA

CANTON BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2005

GARDEN CENTER BUILDING

4:00 P.M..

Reading of the minutes of the May 4, 2005 regular meeting and of the May 24, 2005 Special Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Development Proposal in Stadium Park
2. West Park Proposal
3. Picnic Table Policy

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Evangelical Friends Church requesting to use McKinley Park to hold a children's program for the community on July 25th and 26th, 2005
2. Possible pay increases for Park Commission employees

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

CANTON PARK COMMISSION

BOARD MINUTES

JUNE, 2005

The Canton Board of Park Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, June 1, 2005, at the Garden Center Building.

Present were: Mr. Andy Black, President; Mr. Steve Lamiell, Vice President; Mr. Jim Speakman, Member; and Mr. Douglas V. Perry, Director/Secretary.

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

At this time President Black made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2005 regular meeting and the minutes of the May 24, 2005 special meeting as written. A second was made by S. Lamiell, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Development Proposal in Stadium Park - At this time Mr. Black reviewed for those in attendance the issue at hand. Mr. Black stated that there were many responses and that the percentages were roughly 25 to 75% against the project in Stadium Park.

Mr. Black asked if there were any more statements regarding this issue from the floor.

Ms. Wissuchek of the Mt. Vernon Blvd. Area stated she had done an informal poll in her neighborhood and the opinion was not to sell park land.

The Director then gave the results of the contacts the office had received. There were 335 letters, e-mail, and from the response item put in the paper by Mr. Rosetta. There were 90 for the project and 245 against, 27% to 73%. Personal phone calls and contacts in the park office were 16 against and 2 for the project. At the special meeting of those that spoke, one count had 33 against and 2 for the project.

Mr. Black then stated that when this project was first presented, he was against using park properties and suggested other areas be looked at. Mr. Rosetta did some looking, but came back still wanting an area in Stadium Park. Mr. Black said he then decided to obtain input from the public to see what their opinion was on this issue. Mr. Black stated in his opinion the parks were not for sale, and the public has agreed. The project as proposed just does not make sense. Mr. Black also stated he still hopes Mr. Rosetta is willing to work to find a place in the city for his project as he would be willing to work with him to do so.

Mr. Speakman stated he was the newest member of the Board and wanted to keep an open mind on things. However, even though the idea was good, the location was wrong, and he was against it.

Mr. Lamiell said that he agreed with Mr. Black, and Mr. Speakman. He welcomed new ideas for the city, but this was the wrong location. He also stated that even though he did not think this was the place to build this project, he felt that the Board had a responsibility to listen.

At this point Mr. Speakman made a motion that the Board either accept or reject the project in Stadium park as proposed. A for vote for acceptance, an against vote for rejection.

Mr. Black asked for a roll call vote:

Mr. Black - Against
Mr. Lamiell - Against
Mr. Speakman - Against

The Director was instructed to send a letter to Mr. Rosetta informing him of the decision of the Board and to tell him of the Board's hope that he continues to work with the city to find another location.

2. West Park Proposal - The Director informed the Board of a memo from Community Development asking for concerns regarding the possible sale of a parcel of property at Ninth St. & Schroyer Ave. S.W. this is being used as park property with three ball fields on it.

Mr. Black stated he did not know why it should be released without alternatives for the fields. He asked if a company was looking at the property.

Ms. Poorman, Community Development Director, told the Board that an original proposal had not worked out, but another company was now looking at the property.

Mr. Black asked why is park land being looked at?

Ms. Poorman stated that a developer had asked about the area. The interest was not something pursued by the Administration or Council.

Mr. Black stated that the Park System was not a holding company for commercial development.

Mr. Speakman asked if the property would be replaced?

Ms. Poorman stated that just because they get a request does not mean she agrees with the proposal. She just looks into them.

Mr. Black stated by way of motion that with the information the Board had, he was not currently interested in the proposal.

A second was made by S. Lamiell, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. Picnic Table Policy - No new information was provided with regard to this issue, and it remained tabled.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Evangelical Friends Church requesting to use McKinley Park to hold a children's program for the community on July 25th and 26th, 2005 - The Board reviewed the above request, and a motion was then made by A. Black to approve it with an insurance requirement. A second was made by J. Speakman, and the motion was passed by unanimous vote.
2. Possible pay increases for Park Commission employees - The Director informed the Board that there was action in City Council regarding possible increases for City management employees.

Councilmember Hart was asked what the status of that action was, and he stated it was still in Committee.

The Board decided to take no action on this issue until Council brought the issue out of committee, and the Board had a better idea of what other City management personnel may be receiving.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Canton Joint Recreation District thanking the Board for their support and co-sponsorship of the fish derby on May 21st. Ms. Sawaya ,Recreation Director, stated there were 342 youth involved and a great time was had by all.

Ms. Poorman told the Board that her department helped pay for the fish stocked in the pond.

Mr. Black thanked Mr. Casar for his interest a few years ago that helped bring the derby back.

The District requested to schedule the 5th annual derby at the Stadium Park pond May 20, 2006.

A motion to approve this request was made by A. Black. A second was made by S. Lamiell, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

2. Prajna Sanglia - A Canton Meditation Group requesting to do a Buddhist Animal Release in Monument Park on June 25th & 26th at 1:00 p.m.

A motion to approve the above request was made by S. Lamiell with an insurance requirement. They must comply with all State Law with regard to the release. A second was made by J. Speakman, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. The Director informed the Board that the Lee Park concession stand had been broken into again this past weekend. It was discovered that in spite of many warnings to the teams that they are not to leave things of value inside the building. They indeed had items stored in the building.

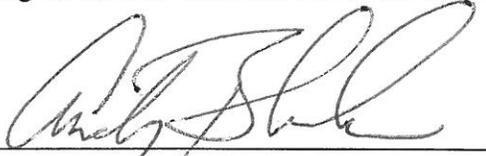
The Director informed the Board if they had no objections, he would be sending the Mitey-Mites a letter telling them that in the future if the building was broken into and items of value were there, they would be responsible for any and all necessary repairs to the building.

The Board had no objections.

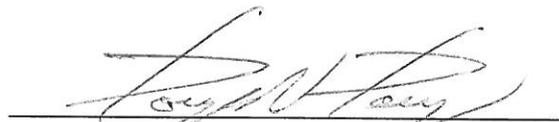
Councilmember Hart was given the floor. He thanked the Board for their work on the Stadium Park proposal. He stated he would be meeting with Mr. Rosetta about two other possible locations for his project.

A lady from the floor also spoke thanking the Board for turning down the West Park Proposal.

Being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.



Andy Black
President



Douglas Perry
Director/Secretary