

**CITY OF CANAL FULTON**  
**PARK & RECREATION BOARD**  
*Meeting Minutes – August 9, 2007*

**PARKS & RECREATION BOARD:**

Fred Fleming called the August 9, 2007 Parks & Recreation Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CALLING OF THE ROLL**

***Present:*** Fred Fleming, Chairman, Mary Ann Higgins, Mary Ann Hupp, and Ed Fousek.

***Absent:*** Katie Mertz

***Others Present:*** Kathy McConnell, Canalway Center.

**CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes will be approved at the next meeting due to not having an original copy at the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Puffenberger Property: No Report.

Off Leash Park: Mr. Fleming stated will need to check the condition of the park and possibly rotate the sides for the dogs.

Brick Donations: No Report.

**PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMMING:**

Recreation Program Offerings: Mrs. Higgins reported she spoke with Jean Campbell and she indicated they only had ten children signed up and of those, six of them were requesting financial aid. The Y cancelled the program. Some of the children went to Jackson to do the program. The Y did receive \$10,000 from the United Way and they wanted the money used in Canal Fulton. Ms. Campbell indicated she will be speaking with Mr. Lambes in the fall on possible swim lessons, and also wants input from the Park Board.

Ms. McConnell suggested partnering with the school for an after school program a couple days a week and possibly do a mini gym.

Ms. McConnell reported there was approximately 45 people at the last movie. There was discussion for next year to possibly add more nights. Ms. McConnell reported she has received a lot of positive feedback.

Mr. Fleming stated the last two concerts have had to be cancelled. They are unable to get the Clinton Community Band back due to the fact they don't perform in August and September. Country Sunrise Special is willing to do another date.

Mrs. Higgins asked about having them for the Discovery Park open house. Mr. Fleming stated they have the monies from the concerts that were cancelled and could possibly bring them in for that event.

Mr. Fleming stated all the sponsors have paid, which was a total of \$1,650.

Ms. McConnell stated she has some ideas for one-time events and also has ideas for on-going sports programs or instructional programs, such as kicker sports introduction program and tennis

clinics. She would like to put the word out about getting instructors. She stated they would contract with individuals to teach the programs. Background checks would be performed on the persons contracted.

She stated some of the other events that she has planned is: Stark Parks is going to be partnering with the Center in the fall for a campfire program that will be held at the Canoe Livery; Daddy/Daughter dance for in the winter, partnering with Linda Keillor, Keillor Teddy Bear Shop for a teddy bear tea party with the children; Ghosts of Ohio Program.

Mrs. Higgins asked the hours of the Canalway Center. Ms. McConnell stated it is full season through September and then in October it will be weekends only and then close. The Heritage Society has indicated they may stop the boat run at the end of August because of problems they have been experiencing with water in the boat.

Ms. McConnell suggested partnering with True Life Church for a Halloween event. She stated she would contact David Derry to see if he had any interest.

Tennis Courts: No Report.

Canalway Center: Ms. McConnell stated attendance is up from last year. The Center sold 1,481 tickets for the canal boat and there was \$7,676 collected for public rides for the month of July. The group charter rides is not included as the heritage Society handles monies directly.

Ms. McConnell stated they are working on canal boat event cruises. The wine and cheese cruise was the last event. It went very well. There were 31 people on the cruise. We had very positive feedback. Scheduled events include an ice cream social/sing-a-long cruise and an underground railroad cruise.

The Center partnered with the Ohio-Erie Canal Coalition and they recently hosted the Canal Tour Du-Towpath event. It started and ended in Canal Fulton. There were over 100 bike riders. There was a lunch provided for the riders after the event, provided by Old Carolina Barbecue.

Ms. McConnell discussed the park pavilion reservations and the possibility of putting up a locked bulletin board to post the reservation form when the individual have rented the pavilion. There was discussion on purchasing more tables to place around the Canalway Center. She also is requesting two – 6' tables and 12 stacking chairs for the Center, as well as a new answering machine. The current one is one she donated and is not working very well. Mr. Fleming advised Ms. McConnell to get prices on requested items.

Discovery Park: Mr. Fleming stated he signed a contract for all three signs. He stated he received a note from Ms. Shimer and he had to pull them back out of production. There are some changes to the sponsors and then it will be resubmitted to the sign company.

Mr. Fleming stated the park benches still need to be re-installed. The landscaping still needs to be addressed in the fall.

An open house will be planned for the middle of September. Ms. Higgins will email the Mayor will several dates.

Newsletter Items: No deadline has been established.

Budget: Mr. Fleming asked if any member wanted a copy of the budget. He will email a copy to members.

Skate Park: No Report.

Olde Canal Days: There was discussion on sending out thank-you notes to those that contributed donations for the event.

Community Service Coordinator: Mr. Fleming stated the Discovery Park needs seeded. Mr. Fousek stated he would seed it.

Mr. Fleming stated the flag pole at Muhlhauser Park needs painted.

Priority List: Ms. McConnell stated she would like to see the board have a work meeting where they go around the City and visit the parks within the City and do an audit to work that needs done. Ms. McConnell will email members with several dates.

St. Helena Park:

The fencing need repaired.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Park Reservations: Mr. Fleming stated he has a request for a girls softball team, that would like to use the St. Helena Park field #1 for practices August 16-October 31, every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

Mrs. Higgins moved to approve the application for use of the fields by Mark Gordon and group, based upon availability and see Ms. Lawson to determine the fees, seconded by Mr. Fousek. ROLL: Yes, ALL.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Fleming adjourned the August 9, 2007 Parks and Recreation Board meeting. The next regular meeting is September 13, 2007.

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Fred Fleming, Chairman