

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 23, 2012 MEETING OF THE BRECKSVILLE RECREATION COMMISSION

Acting Chairperson, Council Representative Rex Mack called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Due to the fact that two Recreation Commission Members were absent, Council Representative Mack moved that the Organizational Meeting scheduled for this evening be adjourned with no further action and be reconvened before the next Recreation Commission Meeting. A motion was made by Council Representative Mack and seconded by Nanci Schlabig to reconvene for the Organizational Meeting at 6pm on Monday, February 13, 2012 in the Community Room. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call was taken. Members present: Pat Barth, Don Lastoria, Rex Mack, Nanci Schlabig and Brian Stucky. Also present: Mayor Jerry Hruby, Recreation Director Tom Tupa, Clerk of Recreation Commission Kelly McNeill and Athletic Director Pete Kormos. Brecksville residents also present: *See attached*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2012

Council Representative Mack asked to amend the Report of the Council Representative to replace the words: "The working projection for the Recreation Budget for 2012" with the following... "The city general fund subsidy for the Recreation Budget is the same as in 2011 and is \$800,000.00. A motion was made by Don Lastoria and seconded by Pat Barth to approve the meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Hruby stated he had hoped that all seven members of the Recreation Commission would be present this evening. The mayor handed out the Proposed Master Plan, on behalf of the Blossom Master Plan Committee and asked the Commission to take the book and read/review in its entirety. A special meeting will be called on Monday, February 13, 2012 at 6pm so any questions can be answered and discussions can begin regarding the proposed Master Plan. After a lengthy discussion on the events leading up to the building of the Community Center, the Mayor charged the Recreation Commission with the following:

- 1. Read and review the proposed Master Plan in its entirety.**
- 2. Discuss the proposed plan a few sections at a time at the upcoming Recreation Commission meetings.**
- 3. Make recommendations to the City Council. (Be sure to look and consider all areas. The Commission should include "all" items that they feel will best take care of the City's Recreation Department now and in the future. Remembering if planned correctly, this development can be done in stages.)**
- 4. Be sure to have the public involvement as to what they feel should and should not be included in the plan.**

Once the commission has read and signed off on the proposed report, it will be put online and made available for the public to be able to read and/or download.

REPORT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

Council Representative Rex Mack reported since the last Recreation Commission Meeting, City Council held its Organizational meeting and also had a meeting on January 17, 2012. At the Organizational Meeting, all the appropriate oaths of office were administered. Both Brian Stucky and Mack took the Oaths of Office as members of the Recreation Commission. Councilman Greg Skaljic was elected President of City Council and Mike Harwood was elected Vice President of City Council. At the January 17, 2012 meeting, City Council authorized for improvement plans to be completed for a maintenance building located at the Blossom Hill Complex. Mack announced the Mayor's Inaugural Ball was on Saturday, January 21, 2012. It went off with what he thought was typical Brecksville class and was a top notch event. A special thanks to Margaret DeWolf and her committee for an unbelievable job in putting together the event. Mack stated as they went through the program, he sat and reflected on the accomplishments of our city over the last few decades as the mayor alluded to some of those earlier and it made him realize how fortunate we are to live in this community. Thank you Mayor Hruby for that great event!

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Tom Tupa reported some "touch up" painting is being done at the Community Center. Service Director Ron Weidig has been great in having three to four of his employees paint the entire Community Center. The place looks fantastic!

Tupa stated an additional monitor was installed in the lobby by the field house where the public can see upcoming events and programs going on around the community and in the Community Center.

Tupa reported the pool table, in the game room of the Community Center has been refurbished and the room has been painted. Tupa also reported on the following "Capital Items" to be done this year:

1. Counter tops in the Community Center
2. New scoreboards to be installed in the field house early this year
-Pete Kormos is in the process of looking up prices for those
3. Upgrade and paint the area by the Community Rooms

Tupa reported at the end of this year and the beginning of 2013, the Community Center will look to replace some of the weight equipment upstairs. A lot of the equipment is the original equipment that has been around for almost 20 years. Although most of it is still in great working condition, Tupa stated it is time to start looking at new equipment and to implement them at certain times over the next three to four years.

Tupa stated the Recreation Departments hopes to include the following projects/improvements under the Capital Items next year (2013):

- Replacing the natatorium roof and the lobby roof (20 years old) so the city does not run in to problems going forward
- Replacing the lockers in both the men's and women's locker rooms. Might have to do in two stages over years 2013-2014.

Tupa welcomed any suggestions regarding improvements for the Community Center. He stated all suggestions placed in the suggestion box are read and reviewed and those items which can be implemented will be implemented.

Tupa announced the next special event on February 11, 2012 is the Father/Daughter, Grandfather/Granddaughter Dance from 7pm to 9pm. The event is sold out, but the Front Desk is still taking names to put on a waitlist. This event is sold out every year and is a great event for the kids. It is one of the great events that Kelly McNeill puts on.

Athletic Director Pete Kormos announced registration for Summer Programs will begin March 1, 2012 for Brecksville residents.

OLD BUSINESS:

Meg English presented a document, on behalf of Councilman Mike Harwood, to the Recreation Commission. This document is the tracking process of the agreement the City has reached with the BBHCSD regarding shared facilities. Currently, both the BTBA and the BTSA are using the school district's facilities. Brenda Foster coordinates on behalf of the soccer program and English coordinates on behalf of the baseball/softball programs. Both ladies also work with Athletic Director Pete Kormos and BBHHS Athletic Director Dan Kalinsky to coordinate times and space available at the schools and the city facilities. The BBHCSD currently is allowing the BTBA & BTSA programs to rent out (for an additional cost) gym facilities now on Saturdays and Sundays.

New Business:

CVYO:

BTSA

Brian Stucky reported Spring Registration has begun for the Soccer Academy (U-9 & under) and for the Bees Travel & Bees Premiere teams. Twenty of the twenty-two teams participated in the Winter I Session at the indoor fields at the Force Fields in Richmond and Warrensville. These fields are rented out for teaching and for actual games. The BTSA has also rented out the indoor soccer field in North Royalton.

BTBA

Meg English reported that both baseball and softball travel teams are utilizing indoor facilities over the winter months as well. They have also used local facilities: Fielders Choice and the Dug Out. Teams are currently preparing for the spring. English stated they have participated in some clinics in cooperation with both High School programs (fast pitch girls & boys travel). Finally, English reported she is getting ready to schedule fields for the upcoming season.

COMMISSION ROUND TABLE:

Nanci Schlabig reported she and Brian Stucky are working on the 3rd Annual Brecksville Home Run Race Event. Schlabig and Stucky met with Hermes last week and met with Mayor Hruby in December 2011. Schlabig met with Ashley this week and the registration form is almost completed. Some of the changes/additions to this year's race are as follows:

- Adding a "Family" Race (take combine times)
- Race will be part of the Hermes Race Series, which will hopefully bring in an additional 200 runners to our event (Hermes sponsors 20 races)
- Our race is on the Hermes Website
- Our race will be part of the Parma Hospital Series (6 races included in series)
- New course this year

***All monies will go to the Run 4 Your Life Program. This is a free running program for Brecksville families (kids & parents). If anyone would like more information on the running program please contact the CVYO, Meg English, Nanci Schlabig or Brian Stucky. This program will begin in the spring and will be held on Sundays from 9am to 10am. Council Representative Mack thanked both Schlabig and Stucky for their hard work on getting this program up and running.**

Mayor Hruby reported that he and Mayor Sam Alai will be meeting, in the near future, primarily so Mayor Alai can give the City of Brecksville an update regarding the City of Broadview Height's partnership with Akron General Hospital. Some questions that Mayor Hruby will have for Mayor Alai are as follows:

- 1) What will the facility include as far as amenities?
- 2) What are the Membership costs?
- 3) Will the new facility be able to "share time" along with the City of Brecksville with regards to housing the BBHHS Swim team?
- 4) What other things might the two cities be able to do together?
- 5) What exactly are going to be the arrangements as far as "usage" for this Facility?

Mayor Hruby stated he hopes that both cities' Recreation Commissions can get together at several round table meetings to talk about the direction of both communities' recreation programs. Mayor Hruby will report back to the Commission after this said meeting with Mayor Alai.

Public Comments:

Brecksville resident Ellen Kramer asked if she was correct in understanding that the public will be allowed to comment on the proposed Master Plan "after" the Recreation Commission signs off on it. Council Representative Rex Mack stated that is not the case. He reiterated that the process is as follows:

1. The proposed Master Plan will be presented to the Recreation Commission
2. The Recreation Commission will then read the proposed report, signing off on it, accepting it as a document (not asking the committee to add or delete anything) and allowing it to be published and put in to Public Record and putting it on the city's website so it can be downloaded.
3. The Recreation Commission will then review and make recommendations, in conjunction with the feedback gotten from the public received at the upcoming Recreation Commission Meetings.

Kramer felt that it would be too late for the public to respond. The mayor clarified that when the Recreation Commission "signs off" on the report, it just means that the Commission has accepted the document (as is). It is *still a work in progress*. From that point, the Recreation Commission will discuss, work through and decide, after getting the public's input, what they want to recommend to City Council. Then City Council will take the proposed plan and make their recommendations. From that point, the city will decide what projects to move forward on. Mayor Hruby assured Kramer the public will have more than adequate time to review and to discuss it with the Recreation Commission before it gets to City Council. It will be a working

document. This is the general opinion of the public which should be “broadly examined” and discussed at the Recreation Commission Meetings at least for the next few months. The mayor stated it isn’t the Blossom Hill Facility Development Advisory Group’s responsibility to work with the public. The mayor wanted to “start the public conversation.” He wanted to get this advisory groups’ opinion and have them get out into the community to see what the residents would want. This is an *advisory* group to the mayor with no power, no authority and no budget. The ultimate responsibility lies with the Recreation Commission, City Council and the Mayor. In response to Kramer’s question, the document should be made public and put online after the next Commission Meeting on 2/13/12, as long as the Commission does not need more time to review or need additional information.

Council Representative Mack thanked Ellen Kramer for her comment and thanked everyone in attendance. Mack said that the Advisory Group’s report is a “starting place” for the Recreation Commission. He stated that input from the public is an important part of the process in helping to develop the proposal into the ultimate recommendation that will be made to the Mayor and City Council.

Brecksville resident Shannon Ritchie asked to clarify the process for this project. He stated if all goes well, the document will be made public after the meeting on February 13, 2012. The Recreation Commission will notify the public as to which sections will be reviewed at the upcoming Commission Meetings and at that time the public can address the commission with their comments. Mayor Hruby hopes, if the public has any interest at all in this development project, they would attend *all* of the meetings to get the entire picture. Mr. Ritchie assumed that with the way things are with the economy, at some point there will be a limited budget. At what point is it determined what stays and what goes in the plan. And would it be City Council’s discussion to determine this? Mayor Hruby stated he believes the Recreation Commission will recommend a list of priorities, in which the public can be apart of that discussion. All meetings regarding this project with the City Council and Recreation Commission will be public meetings. There will be no closed door meetings. It will be the administration’s job to recommend to Council how the City is going to pay for this project. The administration has been looking into this for months and has many suggestions to make to Council as to how they plan to pay for this. This will also be discussed publicly. The mayor plans to address what he suggests being done at the State of the City Address.

Brecksville resident Derek Madej is concerned with how the “public opinion” will be accounted for other than word of mouth. He asked if there might be a more “quantifiable” approach to document the public’s opinion. Mr. Madej would like some “written” record of the publics’ comments. Mayor Hruby felt this was something that could be done and he thanked Mr. Madej for his comments.

As a reminder, Council Representative Mack stated the Recreation Commission will reconvene on Monday, February 13, 2012 at 6pm in the Community Room for the 2012 Organizational Meeting. This will be followed by a special meeting to discuss the proposed Blossom Hill Master plan with the mayor and members of the Blossom Hill Facility Development Advisory Board in attendance.

There being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Brian Stucky and seconded by Don Lastoria to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30p.m.

**Respectfully submitted:
Kelly McNeill
Clerk of Commission**

BRECKSVILLE RESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE
OF THE JANUARY 23, 2012 RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Rich Carter	11202 Greenhaven	216-409-4122	rcarter@4LPI.com
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Kathleen Stewart	12282 Lake Forest Dr.	440-526-1220	dkstewart@adelphia.net
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Meg English	10084 Deer Run	440-526-1485	meg822@sbcglobal.net
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