

## VERMILION PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Minutes of April 17, 2018 - 7:00pm | Municipal Complex Courtroom (687 Decatur)

Roll Call: B. Scholtz, W. Warden, J. Logue, T. Parker, J. Keck, D. Brudney, E. Wakefield *(late arrival)*

*Also Present:* C. Kuhns, REC. DIRECTOR; B. Holmes, COUNCIL REP.

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T. Parker called the meeting of April 17, 2018 to order.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**B. Warden MOVED;** J. Keck seconded to approve the meeting minutes of March 20, 2018. Vote 6 YEAS.  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

### **CORRESPONDENCE/AUDIENCE/COMMUNITY GROUP USE PERMIT:**

T. Parker reported that Maria Santoferraro who conducts summer beach yoga submitted a \$350.00 donation to the City of Vermilion in gratitude for use of Main Street Beach. She would like this donation to be used for the Vermilion City Pool.

He also acknowledged a letter dated March 12, 2018 from Marilou Suszko, Executive Director of Main Street Vermilion thanking the Vermilion Parks & Recreation Board for the Main Street sponsorship of the Vermilion Youth Basketball 2018 program. They appreciate the shout out!

Janice O'Neil was present on behalf of the Daughters of the American Revolution and said it's very important to them to not only place markers, but to mark historical things and refurbish them. She noted she received a call from D. Corogin relative to restoring the historic marker in Victory Park. Therefore, the DAR and other historic groups under her direction have volunteered to donate \$1,000 towards refurbishing the historic marker. She said they have raised \$750 to date and in two weeks they will have the remaining donation. The marker has been shipped to Sewah Studio's for sandblasting and painting. They will restore the post as well. J. Logue asked if the Parks Board can acknowledge on the marker that they paid for this and Janice O'Neil said not on the marker. However, it will be in the minutes, which gets submitted to the Vermilion Photojournal. The board thanked them for their donation.

Phil Pempin, Superintendent of the Vermilion Local Schools acknowledged the money given to the schools by the Parks Board towards the tennis courts, which is appreciated. He said they would still like to take advantage of this, but it's stalled for the reason that they are working on a potential partnership with the school district by doing additional improvements to the campus. The tennis courts could potentially be moved. They are looking at working in a partnership situation where they would move the tennis courts outside of where the gym is located. He couldn't promise this would happen, but there's potential for this partnership to add some walking trails and bike trails around the campus. They are looking at a health facility type partnership along with a couple of entities that would come in and work with their entire campus. They don't want to put too much money into the existing tennis courts if they are going to tear them apart and start over, so they can definitely use the money that the Parks Board dedicated towards it, but understands if it's a hardship for the Parks Board that they would not want to put them in a bad situation either. There have been multiple meetings with these partnerships and they are hopefully adding others to them for the good of the community and the good of the campus, and to make the school district better. They are in negotiations which are taking time, so he can't put a date on this. T. Parker didn't see any reason for the Parks Board to renege on their commitment; it's just a matter of timing. P. Pempin said in another 60 days they will know whether these groups they are working with

are going to be committed. It looks as though it will materialize at this point, but there is still more work to be done.

T. Parker addressed the issue of where money was committed by the Parks Board a couple years ago towards the playground at Sailorway School, but hadn't been issued to the schools to date. P. Pempin didn't know where the school dropped the ball on their end, but he will take responsibility for it and will follow up on this matter. He said the bills were paid, but didn't know why they didn't connect with the city. Dennis Brudney said the money was encumbered on November 3, 2016 according to the Expense Report with Encumbrance Detail spreadsheet for this project. The clerk said she would research the minutes and would discuss the matter with the finance department and would follow up with the schools on what she finds. P. Pempin said the schools can check their books on this matter as well.

T. Parker noted that \$5,000 a year for five years was committed by the Parks board towards the tennis courts and they will stand by this.

### **Community Event Group Use Permit:**

#### **Sherod Park** – Dwayne Jarrell – Belden Field (Baseball)

T. Parker explained he received communication from D. Corogin relative to Dwayne Jarrell requesting to use Sherod Park this summer for baseball. Last year the Parks Board approved \$1,500 for repairs to the dugouts that was never utilized. Therefore, D. Jarrell would like to utilize the fields again and they are willing to paint the dugouts and fix the roof that was blown off, and will provide the labor on other items the city needs to have done if the city will provide the materials.

**J. Logue MOVED**; J. Keck seconded to authorize use of the \$1,500 that wasn't utilized in 2017 towards repairs at Beldon Field. Discussion: T. Parker noted that he wasn't sure if the money had been encumbered in 2017, but it was never spent. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:**

C. Kuhns reported he has been working on the 'Movies in the Park' for this year, but in talking with the finance director he was made aware they don't have the funds for this, but Main Street has volunteered to fund the movies. Lastly, he reported that the baseball and softball registration deadline is April 27.

T. Parker said he received communication from Tony Valerius informing him that Pooltech did a pressure test on the pool and all the lines tested well. They did find one skimmer leaking where the throat meets the pool wall. This could temporarily be fixed with epoxy at a price of around \$80.00 or they could replace the skimmer at a price of around \$1,850.00. He said the leaking around the skimmer could result from the water loss. He said if the pool is to be opened this summer, then they should be prepared to fix this whether they use the epoxy or replace the skimmer. J. Logue asked that in assuming the pool would be open; they wouldn't do the deck this summer would they? T. Parker said no because it's too late to get bids and get on contractors schedules. J. Logue said his suggestion would be a Band-Aid until they fix the deck, and then fix the skimmer. B. Scholtz pointed out a contractor had offered to open the pool for free. T. Parker clarified that Gross Brothers is opening the restroom facility, but Pooltech does the filters and heater.

**B. Scholtz MOVED**; J. Keck seconded to approve temporarily fixing the pool with epoxy at the time Pooltech opens the pool at a cost not to exceed \$100.00. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

T. Parker referred to Dana Corogin's report in her absence and said the weather has been rough on their lakefront parks and the water is still high. He said Nokomis Park took a lot of erosion during the previous storm and D. Corogin had authorized Edward's Tree to come in and cut the brush that was on and above the bank.

Unfortunately, after they did this they had another storm and they lost a good bit of shale, which caused the top of the bank to cut back. He said the wooden steps were okay at least until this most recent storm. There is erosion from a water runoff between Nokomis and Linwood and D. Corogin has asked the city to investigate because it's causing erosion around the wooden steps. She's also bringing in people from ODNR and Erie County Soil and Water to discuss options for bluff protection.

T. Parker said East Exchange Park seems like it will be a major project relative to installing a new brick patio/dock and landscaping along the river. Therefore, they will not do anything at this time. He said the Veteran's brick walk area and bricks along the sidewalk need replaced at Exchange Park. If they find out they have the money, this may be a good project for the board to consider doing this year. He said the city will provide a portable toilet at Main Street Beach this summer and noted the playground equipment needs to be improved at Hanover Square, but again they need to see what their finances will be.

He noted with regards to the historic marker at Victory Park the costs will not exceed \$1,200 (\$1,000 to be donated) so the board needs to approve the expenditure. The donation will reimburse the levy fund.

**B. Warden MOVED**; J. Keck seconded to approve the expenditure not to exceed \$1,200 (\$1,000 to be donated by DAR) for the historic marker at Victory Park. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

T. Parker noted the roof and cupola need to be replaced on the Gazebo in Victory Park as funds permit. In Village Greens, there are eight historic lights that are not currently operational. They need new ballasts or to be fitted for new LED lighting. Materials and labor to convert lamps to LED is \$125.00/pole or \$1,000, plus, the cost to connect to the meter. The total cost not to exceed \$1,500.

**J. Keck MOVED**; J. Logue seconded to approve the expenditure not to exceed \$1,500 for the materials and labor to convert lamps to LED in Village Greens. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

T. Parker explained that Libby Williams is working with D. Corogin on a grant to continue improvements to the skate spot on Devon Drive through the Erie County Metro Parks. They can only apply for reimbursement to the city for projects in the parks. The improvements are contingent on receiving the grant. The improvements proposed would include 17 trees, new lighting poles, and a new feature for the park. They have an alternative source for funding if the grant is not awarded for the landscaping.

He reported the Ice Skating Rink will need some attention in the future as the west end needs to be regraded. The parking lot at Sherod Park needs patching and the drives/parking need reconfigured and resurfaced. In addition, all playgrounds and swing sets need new engineer playground mulch at a price not to exceed \$5,000.

**J. Keck MOVED**; D. Brudney seconded to approve the expenditure not to exceed \$5,000 for new engineered mulch at all playgrounds and swing sets. Discussion: D. Brudney said it's absolutely horrible underneath the swing set at Sherod Park and he wouldn't let the kids play in there, so they definitely need to do this. Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

T. Parker addressed proposed language submitted by D. Corogin for the Skate Spot sign. He asked the board to provide feedback, if any, to D. Corogin.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **City Pool**

B. Scholtz said between private donations, service organizations, foundations and grants, they are well over half way there of receiving the monies needed to open the pool. He said that Bob Cunicella has been sending thank you notes for all private donations, but they will wait till they get all the donors in until they start thanking everyone. He mentioned the Community Foundation of Lorain County is a matching and challenge grant,

which means as a community they need to raise that, so they can get those funds. This is a \$5,000 grant. He said they have a quarter of it right now with private donations and a quarter of it in foundations, grants, and pledges. J. Logue asked if this has to be a specific donation that has to be matched. B. Wakefield said she has been asking people to put on their checks “pool/match”, so hopefully it will direct it towards the Community Foundation match. She said it’s possible they have already matched it.

B. Scholtz announced a Spaghetti Fundraiser for the pool has been planned for Sunday, April 22 from noon to 3:00 p.m. at German’s Villa. The donation is \$20.00 per person. The pool community receives \$10.00 of the donation. He said they need additional volunteers to collect donations, sell tickets, etc. He thanked Betsy Wakefield, Steve Herron, Dennis Brudney, Patrick Anders, Dana Corogin, Bob Cunicella, Patty Kishman, and Cliff German for all their hard work.

B. Scholtz said the pool committee received a donation of \$25.00 from a tourist who said she had the opportunity to experience our wonderful community while traveling across country in September of 2015. Everyone was so kind and accommodating that she made a note that she would return sometime. She asked for the committee to please accept her small gift towards the community pool fund for the children of the city. She offered many blessings and said, “May your children have many hours of laughter and fun”. –Natasha Laflin, Colorado. T. Parker said this is a continued affirmation of the positive spirit that people have toward the parks which is gratifying.

#### Skate Spot

D. Brudney said that D. Corogin will attempt to open the park somewhere around the end of April. It won’t be the formal opening that she would like to plan, but she would like to get it open and running for a while and then maybe sometime in June or so, have a more formal opening.

#### Harbor View Project

J. Logue had no additional information to report at this time.

#### Budget Subcommittee

T. Parker said the Budget committee hasn’t met, but they are getting closer to being able to meet. The financials are being sharpened and it’s still a matter of looking into what has been paid and what idea was cancelled. They are waiting to see how much has been encumbered to date.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

**B. Scholtz MOVED;** J. Keck seconded to adjourn the meeting. Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

May 15, 2018 @ 7:00 pm - Municipal Complex Courtroom (687 Decatur)

~ Gwen Fisher, Boards and Commissions