

VERMILION PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Minutes of September 18, 2018 - 7:00pm | Municipal Complex Courtroom (687 Decatur)

Roll Call: T. Parker, E. Wakefield, W. Warden, B. Scholtz, Jim Schoene, D. Brudney
Not Present: J. Keck, T. Valerius, SERVICE DIRECTOR
Also Present: D. Corogin, PARKS (Mtcc. Operations) DIRECTOR; Chad Kuhns, REC. DIRECTOR; B. Holmes, COUNCIL REP

T. Parker called the meeting of September 18, 2018 to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

J. Schoene MOVED; B. Wakefield seconded to approve the meeting minutes of August 21, 2018. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

CORRESPONDENCE/AUDIENCE/COMMUNITY GROUP USE PERMIT:

Charl Gabel, Director of Friends of Harbour Town advised the board they have counted the memorial bricks in the park and they are all documented – none are broken.

Brian Crandall of 697 Main Street (Silly Goose) said his request before the board is that before any permits are issued for use of the parks or for the car show that all parties get together and come up with an equitable solution to both Main Street Vermilion and the people who have the Corvette Show. He thinks an equitable solution could be presented and if anybody wants to facilitate the meeting he would be open. He said Main Street Vermilion has been approached about the Farmer's Market no less than four times, so they have been reached out to.

Katie Lalonde said she had proposed a new playground at Sherod Park two months ago and since then she has met with different folks about the dimensions of the park and forming a committee and doing some fundraising. Her request is for approval of putting in a new structure at the existing structure, based upon privately funded grants that could be applied for, along with fundraising. She asked for the board's approval to move forward with redoing the Sherod Park playground. T. Parker said he and Dana met with Katie at Sherod Park and there is no point in her fundraising if they can't have the space, so they thought the first step would be to ask the board to approve the existing playground area if the project comes to fruition in replacing it with new equipment. K. Lalonde pointed out there would be no removal of trees or workout equipment that is existing.

B. Wakefield said it's a wonderful opportunity to have somebody step up from the public and do some fundraising and incorporate their ideas.

K. Lalonde talked about the all-inclusive playground (disability whether elderly or young children) as it allows all ages essentially to play. She is not against this, but she will need to make sure a structure like that would fit within those guidelines. However, she wasn't sure this was the best park for it depending on size and open area. B. Holmes noted that Mercy Health & Rec are all-inclusive, and you can put small pieces instead of going full bore. B. Wakefield said it wouldn't be limited to disability issues; it's for any age that wants to use a park atmosphere. K. Lalonde said she hasn't done research on all-inclusive playgrounds, but in her original proposal it was for ages 2 – 12, so these are details they can be worked out, but the first step is getting approval from the parks board. T. Parker said the proposal as presented in July was a concept and it's not going to be exactly what will end up at Sherod Park. It was one company that responded to Katie's request for a catalog and the proposal wasn't set in stone. There are a lot of questions that will need to be addressed relative to who will be holding the funds, will the project need to go out to bid, etc. He said the board just needs to give approval to Katie to give the project her best shot and the approval to put new playground equipment at the existing playground if the project comes to fruition.

D. Corogin said she looked at all the playgrounds in Vermilion and they do have a lot of playgrounds in Vermilion, but there is really nothing in the township – not that it's the City's responsibility to provide something for the township, but it's a good location, and this is the only location Katie is really interested in fundraising for. K. Lalonde said she does live in the township and drives by the park at least two times a day if not more and there is a lot of activity at Sherod. At any given hour there is always somebody at the park; whether they're watching the sunset, walking their dogs, etc. She said her heart is at Sherod Park because this is typically where she takes her kids. D. Corogin said people using the pavilion at the park for family reunions or parties would have access to the playground. Her only concern is that if they ever reconfigure the drive entrance into the park and put parking on the side where the pavilion is, would it encroach into some of the property. Additionally, her other concern is the quality of the playground equipment and felt they should obtain a couple different quotes and find out where they can go and look at the playground equipment. Currently the city uses Game Time for their playground equipment.

B. Warden asked if the existing playground equipment is in bad enough condition where it needs discarded or relocated. K. Lalonde said her proposal is to eliminate the swings, but they could use the blue swings for the toddlers at another location. However, the original blue/yellow structure has seen better days and it's not safe and it has exposed metal. She is looking to remove all the structures that are there currently and replace them with new equipment.

B. Wakefield MOVED; B. Scholtz seconded to authorize approval of allowing Katie Lalonde to move forward with her fundraising to redo the existing playground structure at Sherod Park, based upon privately funded grants that could be applied for, along with fundraising. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

Community Event Group Use Permits -

T. Parker noted that any event scheduled for 2019 could be assessed a fee once the board reviews and determines a potential fee structure for use of the parks/pavilions.

D. Brudney said with at least three events scheduled in August back to back will there be a problem with maintaining trash collection and additional park maintenance. D. Corogin said they strive to get better each year but the city garage has trash carts that aren't used for anything else, so for the last two years in the month of August they have hauled the carts to the park, which has helped during these events.

Anne Naugle, Vermilion Beach Market (Sherod Park) - Friday/Saturday, August 2-3, 2019 @ Friday (8a–8p); Saturday (9a–4p) (Village Greens).

B. Wakefield MOVED; D. Brudney seconded to approve the Community Event Group Use Permit as submitted. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

Stacey Scholtz, Main Street Vermilion/HFP Racing – Triathlon (Sherod Park) – Thursday – Sunday, August 15-18, 2019 (All day).

B. Wakefield MOVED; B. Scholtz seconded to approve the Community Event Group Use Permit as submitted. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

Mark Valenti, Blind Dog Gym – Training Group (Soccer Field/Sherod Park) – September 29, 2018 @ 10a-3p.

Mark Valenti, Blind Dog Gym – Competition (Soccer Field/Sherod Park) – August 10, 2019 (All day)

T. Parker noted the board approved Mark Valenti's requests at the August meeting contingent upon him submitting the Group Use Permits. The appropriate paperwork has been submitted and he was made aware of the potential fee discussion and is awaiting the boards response. The motion made in August stands approved.

Ann DiCarlo, Lake Shore Corvettes – Corvette Show (Victory Park/Village Greens – grassy area) – Saturday, July 13, 2019 from 6a-5p. T. Parker tabled this request until the October meeting as a representative for this event needs to be present before board approval.

Marilou Suszko, Main Street Vermilion – Hot Diggity Dog (Main Street Beach/Main Street North of Huron & Exchange Park) – Saturday, September 7 or 14, 2019 (whichever is available as there is another potential request for 9/14) from 8a-2p.

M. Suszko said she is aware there may be another potential event scheduling for September 14, 2019, so she is willing to schedule this event on September 7 if September 14 doesn't work out.

B. Wakefield MOVED; B. Scholtz seconded to approve the Community Event Group Use Permit as submitted. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

D. Corogin addressed the following parks:

Showse Park – Reported the wood ceiling to be added to small pavilion this month.

Nokomis Park – Reported the shale bluff is fully exposed. Erosion problem needs to be addressed.

East Exchange Park – Reported that Vermilion in Bloom did some cleaning up in conjunction with the Condo Association. The Condo Association took out all the old railroad ties and then they went in with a landscaping company to seed it to make it look nicer. She noted the new bulkhead and brick walk/patio need to be installed as time and funds permit next year.

Exchange Park – Noted they had previously discussed fixing the Veteran's bricks that are near the flag, which Charl Gabel alluded to that needs to be done at some point. She stated that B. Scholtz had brought up the idea of removing the soldier bricks that have deteriorated along the whole sidewalk. These are bricks that lay perpendicular along the sidewalk. They are a trip hazard and the least expensive way to address this is to remove them, but that is a problem because it's a very narrow sidewalk and it gets considerable amount of use. The price to remove them is \$1,250 and an additional \$250 to save bricks on a pallet and deliver them to the service center. Even if they did remove this long stretch it gets tricky with stopping and starting around the Comfort Station, so she proposed as a decorative area they would leave those soldiers and tighten them up. She said T. Valerius had asked her if there was enough of a concrete ledge that they could run them with a running pattern next to the sidewalk. She will do additional investigation and will bring this issue before the board again next month.

Main Street Beach – D. Corogin explained that in conjunction with the Harbor View Project the public outcry has been the need for restrooms at Main Street Beach. Therefore, they decided this is a Parks Board project and one of the members at the Harbor View meeting is an architect (Tom Bodde). He volunteered to look at the site with Margaret Wakefield and come up with a conceptual drawing to get the wheels spinning. Even if they build something on the museum site, those restrooms won't service the beachgoers, so the most logical and accessible location would for a restroom to be on the beach. They have never liked the looks of the pump house because it's at an angle and it has a flat roof and vents on top of it. There is nothing attractive about this structure, so Tom Bodde came up with a great idea of encasing the pump house in a nice building that would also have restrooms since they have water and electric at the location. They could add onto the pump house and disguise the building. They met with the Service Director and the Water Department and learned of the importance of the pump house.

She reviewed with the board members preliminary conceptual drawings of a proposed restroom/concession stand to possibly mimic the current Comfort Station to a point. She said they would be floodable restrooms

without any stalls. It would have a changing bench, toilet, and sink, and it could be locked from the outside. To get rid of the current shed at the beach, T. Bodde suggested a little snack counter with a retractable window that can be locked when closed. The dimensions of the building aren't large, and it would look nice coming down the street, and it would not block all the lakefront view as it goes in an angle. She said T. Bodde proposed eliminating the existing deck, but since people use it all time they could incorporate something along the back of the lighthouse where people could sit on benches. They could possibly shorten the deck, so it would service people wanting to get a snack. She said this wouldn't compete against restaurants uptown – it is packaged foods; ice cream bars, water, etc. They would still have a drinking fountain and they could refigure the deck. She feels that if the Parks Board wants to do this by next summer, they must move quickly to make sure the site is feasible, and they would need to work out the electric and the sewer provision. The houses on the east side of Main Street have tie-ins and they are pumped up to where the sewer is, so she doesn't know if it makes sense to tie it into the former museum property or to do it someplace else. Mayor Forthofer said he talked with the Service Director on this and the current conditions of the laterals and the sewer facilities and the museum is nothing they want to save or risk any structure on, so they would need to go directly from this proposed site up to Huron Street. The water and electric are already there, and they would need to run sanitary.

D. Corogin said it could cost anywhere from \$110,000 to \$200,000 based on what materials are used for the decking. She thought \$200,000 would be on the high end with \$110,000 being on the low end. She asked the Parks Board if they liked the idea and concept on this site and if they would want to vote on researching it more. They could hire an architect to work on a plan to meet the needs of the community and eventually the project would go out to public bid for a contractor. She said it would probably require grants and fundraising to make this project happen. B. Wakefield didn't think they could go much further with anything without addressing the restroom issue and this concept looks beautiful and it appears to fit in nicely. D. Corogin thought it would be exciting to the community to see that something is happening at Main Street Beach.

T. Parker asked if they knew where they stood with the immediate neighbors relative to the sight line rights. D. Corogin noted that Dan & Jenny Pryor have seen the conceptual drawing since they are the ones that brought the restroom proposal to the Parks Board. In addition, another couple did see it too as they hope someday their house is part of the master plan. However, they loved that the proposed restrooms would be continued at that angle and it will make looking out their door so much more attractive than the pump house and shed.

T. Parker asked how close the lake has been to the pump house this year and D. Corogin said it has been close and that is why a structure there would need to be floodable and the deck would be raised. T. Parker asked if this would be a year-round facility and D. Corogin said this is something the board would need to decide on. She said her recommendation it to make it a locked facility but noted the beach can be used all year-round.

B. Scholtz asked how the process should proceed at this point, especially with discussing it in conjunction with the Harbor View Project. D. Corogin said they would take this concept to them, even though it's more of a Parks Board project. She didn't think it would interfere with anything they propose for the Harbor View Project. B. Scholtz asked if the next step would be to hire an architect to begin the designs and D. Corogin concurred and if the Parks Board feels it's in their budget to allocate funds for this, then anything above that they could do through fundraising and grants.

J. Schoene MOVED; B. Warden seconded to approve the concept of the restrooms/concession stand as presented by D. Corogin. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

Skate Spot – D. Corogin said they appreciate the Heath family for refurbishing the bicycle rack as it looks brand new! She also noted that Dennis Brudney has researched shade features. She said they have a little bit of grant money left (around \$1,000) due to Jim Schoene's generosity. They also had approved as a board to spend another \$5,000 on the Skate Spot that they haven't spent. They only spent \$1,000 of it on the security light. In talking with students, they had talked about building and putting in another structure but after research she feels the kids really want shade. D. Brudney said they did talk about another feature in the park and after receiving a

quote for around \$34,000 - \$42,000 he figured this wasn't doable. He observed at the Open House that the kids were sitting down behind the half pipe trying to find the shade, so they talked to them about whether it was a good idea of sitting on the city porch as they are creating some problems sitting there. Therefore, they thought it would be a better route to put a shade structure in for them. He reviewed a couple different proposals with the board. The first proposal for a 10' x 20' T-Cantilever Shade System – 10' High totaled \$5,361.20. The second proposal for a 20' x 10' Full Cantilever Shade System totaled \$4,727.00. However, after reviewing both shade systems he was in favor of the first proposal for the T-Cantilever Shade System. It provides protection from the sun, rain, and hail; it doesn't hold a snow load very well, so they would need to remove the roof in the winter. There are a couple different systems as to how to remove the roof and put it back on. The one he proposed is a patented system where two gentlemen can remove the roof with socket wrenches and in 20 minutes the roof can be removed and in 30 minutes in the spring it can be put back on. The guarantees are the best in the industry – 20 years on the frames; 10 years on the fabric; 10 years on the stitching. It's fire-rated and UV protected and a great system. He addressed the possibility of moving it if the Fire Station ended up at this location and if they put it in concrete they will have a problem with cutting it off or getting new posts in the future if they want to continue to use this. He recommended bolting it to a pier (concrete cemented into the ground). He said B. Scholtz is looking at pricing out the foundation part of the concrete. They may be able to use some of the grant money for this. D. Corogin said she would like the roof to be blue. D. Corogin said she would like to start working on the grant paperwork in October because she needs to have all the invoices and receipts collated to give back to the Erie Metro Parks as the deadline is November 30, so everything must be spent and installed. She said they could put the footers in and use the grant money for that.

D. Brudney MOVED; J. Schoene seconded to approve another \$2,000 which will cover the grant and then \$1,000 in addition to what the Parks Board had already approved. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

B. Scholtz MOVED; B. Wakefield seconded to approve the proposal submitted by Shade Systems Inc. for the 10' x 20' T-Cantilever Shade System in the amount of \$5,361.20. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Victory Park – D. Corogin said that when Don and Diane Chesnut passed away their daughter Debbie Hansen had approached her asking if the Parks Board would be willing to consider them working on revamping the fountain in honor of their parent's memory. During the Skate Spot project, Will Heath a mason had approached J. Schoene about an interest in redoing the fountain as well. She thought it would be great to look at this project and asked permission from the Parks Board to pursue this and to get these two parties together to just look at it. If they come up with a proposal, then she would have them propose it to the Parks Board.

J. Schoene MOVED; B. Warden seconded to authorize permission to pursue revamping the fountain in Victory Park. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

D. Corogin reported the historic marker is being installed this week in Victory Park by the Street Department.

Ice Rink – T. Costello explained with the current grading conditions of the rink, the east end of the rink will overflow before the west end of the rink if full enough to skate on. He needs to wait until it freezes then he can build the west side up with resurfacing before they can skate. If the rink can get regraded, then it would be ready to go as is. It's something they have been fighting with and a third of it really isn't usable. It's good to have separate sides used by different age groups, but if they are on the same side then it's conflicting. If the whole surface was usable then they can have different groups fully enjoying the rink independently, so it would be nice if they could regrade it. D. Corogin said that T. Valerius asked Justin Miller for a price and to excavate the whole rink to get it to the correct depth (12" – 14") would not exceed \$2,900. They would truck the soil offsite and would reseed it. D. Corogin said they also had disconnected the light at the rink because a wire was going over the half pipe, so whenever they can reconnect the light back to the building for power that would be great. She will bring a cost next month to the board. T. Costello said high school groups enjoy the rink in the evening, so it would cut back the usage of the rink if they didn't have lighting. He also tends to resurface the rink in the evening and lighting would help him as well.

B. Warden asked if there has been any more thought into putting a warming shed at the ice rink. D. Corogin said if they build a structure at Main Street then maybe they could use the Shore Thing shed at the ice rink, or they could rent an Amish built shed during the winter months. She will get a price on renting a shed for January and February.

B. Wakefield MOVED; B. Warden seconded to authorize the regrading and reseeding of the ice rink at a cost not to exceed \$2,900. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

Rotary Park – D. Corogin noted that Eileen Bulan oversees the grounds and asked if it was possible to relocate some of the Rotary Park benches that were dedicated to that park as there are way too many benches there. They wondered if the city could use the benches in the parks. She stated that she had asked Eileen how many benches there are and where they would like to see them relocated to.

B. Scholtz MOVED; J. Schoene seconded to authorize relocating benches from Rotary Park to other parks in the city as determined by Eileen Bulan. Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

Chad Kuhns, Recreation Director said they are about a month into the tag football league and they have about 50 players, and they are in the same travel league that they have been in over the last five years. They added cheerleaders this year and they have 11 girls participating. They travel to the fifth and sixth grade games and cheer at those games. He also has a fifth and sixth grade flag team and they joined a league out of the Cleveland area, so they have 11 players in that league.

He recapped on the 'Movies in the Park' as it was one of the best years they have ever had. This has been his ninth year in running the 'Movies in the Park' and the first movie they had over 100 people attend and the second movie they had 20 people, and then after that it was around 80 – 100 people.

Harbor View Subcommittee Report:

J. Schoene noted their next meeting hasn't been scheduled but he along with Marilou Suszko, Eileen Bulan and Tom Bodde met with Stuart Sheridan the Principal Owner of Northern Ohio Lumber & Timber and Tom Hennessy, Director of Operations who specialize in reclamation. They spent two plus hours going through the facility as T. Hennessy is aware of the historic significance the community has for this facility. They determined it was an excellent project for deconstruction. There are a lot of marketable materials that can be deconstructed that helps in defraying costs. He noted that T. Hennessy had asked if they knew where the plans were for the Wakefield House and E. Bulan had told him that she thought there was something in the city archives, and he told them that he could guarantee the original plans are encased in a bronze tube and buried in the steps leading up to the portico on the east side because back in that era they were concerned about fire and they could always find the plans and rebuild if they had to. He was confident that if they took a metal detector they would probably see something in the front steps leading up to the portico. They also said that given the concern in the community of the history of the facility, what if they gave the building a haircut and deconstructed it from the roof down to about the middle of the first floor windows; keep the basement and the bottom part of the building and then basically fill in the basement or clean it up and turn it into bathrooms, and then build the successor structure on top of that footprint. The restriction is with the Western Conservancy and in the State of Ohio they must stay within the footprint for a successor building. He said as an example they could build a pavilion that could be used for weddings and conferences with a stairway that goes up to a viewing area at the successor structure. This is an idea as they were asked to come up with ideas as far as a reclamation and respecting the history of the facility. This is a concept that hasn't gone anywhere at this point. In conclusion, he said last week he along with Peter Corogin, Eileen Bulan, and Tom Bodde met at Huggy's to discuss this meeting they had

with Ohio Lumber and Timber to see if it had legs and is worthy in exploring. They will obtain more information and data and if it's worthy they will bring it to the full committee to present a concept.

Budget Subcommittee:

T. Parker said they have looked at what it will take them to operate next year as the final budget has not been set. They are looking at prioritizing projects from the capital levy. They will have operating and maintenance levy money in 2019. The board reviewed a Minimal Sustainable Vermilion Parks and Recreation Maintenance Budget for 2019 and the monthly net income assumes some money from the general fund and the additional income represents the new levy funds that will come in at approximately \$270,000 in 2019. The third item is the money that will remain after the pool is opened next year. The community had a successful fundraiser and they have enough to open the pool next year and still have a little bit of revenue left over, which has been rolled into income as well. Pursuant to the fixed monthly expenses, they had talked about a lead person for the parks that would be a full-time position. At this point this probably won't be a person who will do management and programming, but somebody that's going to be one of the people who is working in the parks, along with one additional laborer, along with materials and supplies, and city pool operating expenses, which is a monthly estimate of \$21,713 for 2019 assuming those personnel are in place. The planned expenses according to the spreadsheet are for part time labor in the summers, tree pruning, mulch, playground equipment, pool maintenance, annual payment to the schools for the Sailorway ballfield lease to cover the cost of the Groundskeeper, fertilizing and weed treatment, maintenance of Rotary Park, and eventual maintenance of the Harbor View area at estimated total planned expenses of \$75,726. They put a forecast onto the spreadsheet of where they would stand financially beginning January 1, 2019 and what the cash balance would be going forward through the year. He asked the board to review the spreadsheet at their leisure knowing that they will continue to refine numbers once they know what they are receiving next year as the city budget is worked out. Regrettably it's a step back from what they hoped it would be, which is unfortunately becoming the case for every department. It's not what they sold to the public but it's the reality they will have to live with. This is a conservative approach and they will keep the board updated going forward.

D. Corogin asked when they would know how much will be allocated for parks in the general fund and Mayor Forthofer said it will have to be voted on by Council when they finalize their budget in 2019. G. Fisher said council passes a temporary budget, but by the end of March they will finalize the 2019 budget. T. Parker clarified that last month they mentioned they are out of operating money for the year according to the finance director as there was a significant reduction from \$156,000 to \$124,000 from 2017 to 2018. He believed the school groundskeeper fee was not accounted for in the budget and it came due in August, so this is what happened from what he can see.

Park Use Fees:

T. Parker noted that G. Fisher did a lot of homework in collecting information from various cities around Ohio as to what they do. It runs a gamut from reserving something for \$15 and in some cases to \$100/\$200 in other cases. There are rate structures for residents as opposed to non-residents, so there are a lot of variables and moving parts and they need to get a handle on whether this is something they should do, is it appropriate, what kind of things should they be considering for profit events versus private individuals, versus non-profit events.

B. Wakefield suggested setting up a subcommittee to discuss this matter and to come up with suggestions. T. Parker said they need to look at what will be the impact on their ability to do the services they want to do given the reduction of money from the general fund. How can they be reasonable to the groups and to the citizens who supported them through two levies, and still be able to keep the parks clean and maintained. He thought forming a subcommittee would be a good way to venture into this.

G. Fisher noted the City of Sandusky lists each of their parks with the associated fee according to resident/non-resident, and then they list the accommodations they offer which she thought was a good format. D. Brudney

asked if there was a way to look at the usage history of the parks and G. Fisher said they could probably obtain past information from Anne Maiden as she keeps the reservation calendar.

B. Holmes said the metro parks have time slots for their shelters and on their web site they show pictures of their shelter, quantity of picnic tables/grills, availability, and it's \$30 to rent according to time slot. G. Fisher said all this information is nice to show on your web site. B. Holmes said as far as fee structures, it would help the additional income line to help maintain the facilities, purchase trash bags, replace trash cans, etc. Fees don't have to hit the public hard but at the same time he thinks the public would understand that it benefits the park district and the facilities if they had a fee. He said they do offer safe and clean parks in Vermilion and people do enjoy them. He said they don't need to charge for daily use but rather for big events.

Shawn Jefferies said she is an event planner and for the last 10 years in Cuyahoga County there was an outdoor facility that was utilized for weddings and when they are talking about fee structures it is quite simple if they want to cater to the residents and then those who are not residents. She rented out facilities for weddings at \$900 a pop! A wedding or big event warrants a higher fee structure rather than a birthday party. This is a viable income for the parks board to look at and it's an avenue to bring in money to this area, so she told the board not to be afraid to put a charge on these events. A standard wedding costs around \$30,000 from start to finish, so paying \$1,000 for a wedding place is a drop in the bucket. She asked the board to consider this because they can make a substantial income from it. B. Holmes said the metro parks does offer wedding venues and those fee structures are different because they are big events as opposed to a birthday party.

Katie Lalonde questioned what they would put in place for people that use the parks every year, say for a family reunion. Every year they haven't paid so how would they tell the public that effective January 1 they have a fee. B. Warden said the fees would need to be built into the Community Use Event Permit Application. T. Parker said they are not trying to gouge people at all. B. Holmes said the metro parks charges \$30 and if 100 people show up and donate a dollar they have well enough money to cover the fee. Mayor Forthofer said these are things that should have been done a long time ago and now they are playing catch up. B. Wakefield said they have the city web site, lead organizations (Main Street/Chamber) that also have web sites that can help get this information out to people. D. Corogin said as soon as somebody comes into Anne's office then it would be her responsibility to inform people of the fees prior to filling out an application. B. Holmes said some cities offer shelter rentals online and they show a calendar with the dates that are already reserved. S. Jefferies said they should move this along because the Chamber is trying to create Vermilion as a wedding destination and they will be having another wedding event in October to promote this and another in March. This information could be given to brides by the end of the year.

The subcommittee consisting of B. Wakefield, B. Warden, and D. Brudney will meet to come up with some suggestions to present at the October Parks meeting.

Pool Trust:

T. Parker said the mayor previously had sent the board a concept of a pool trust as something to carry the financial burden of the city pool going forward. Mayor Forthofer said for the second time he can remember the city failed to fund the opening of the pool. Through the generosity of the community they proved the city wanted a pool and they funded it, so it could open it this year and in 2019. They don't want this constant pool opening at the whim of the city's general fund but to take it under their own control. Not that they need to have spaghetti dinners every year but to possibly manage it for the long term. They have almost a two-year head start, and he would suggest they would put in the budget for 2019 for the next several years if the parks board agrees to do this. Rather than the \$50,000 they put in, the city would at least commit to \$5,000 or \$10,000 for possibly the next five years, which would help supplement fundraising the Parks Board needs to do to get them off and running. It would be under the Parks Board control and it would be a pool fund in the mindset that there might not be a Valley View Pool but a pool somewhere else. This trust could transfer to wherever the pool facility is.

He would have to surrender to the legal minds as to whether they would need to name the trustees or if the Parks Board themselves would be trustees.

B. Warden said it sounds like the Parks Board are the ones helping the city by saving them \$50,000 a year, which will come out of the Parks budget. Mayor Forthofer said they are all the city one way or the other. B. Warden understood this but every year previous the city gave a lion's share, but he can't imagine them going back every other year to benefactors to put them on the spot to either donate or say there's no pool. He thinks this is asking an awful lot especially since they had good support on the parks levy. If the public wants a pool, then maybe they should put a pool levy on the ballot. He doesn't think shifting everything onto the parks board and saying the city will give them \$5,000 when they used to give them \$50,000 is really doing them any favors. Mayor Forthofer said the reality is that there may not be \$50,000 there at all. B. Warden said they become the bad guys because they would now be taking even more money out of the parks levy. Mayor Forthofer said there may be a need to write ongoing grants or having different benefactors, or other sponsorships that help fund the pool every year. He said if they want to guarantee the pool then they might want to think about taking it over themselves and then they can work with council to see if they want to gradually support it as long as they can in some small way.

T. Parker said the question becomes, do they want to continue the pool at the current site and how would they do it, and what partnerships would be looked at. He said maybe someday there would be a school city partnership. The reality is the pool needs a lot of work; the decking needs to be replaced and they still have a leak. It needs a new pump as well. D. Brudney said they also need to review the current pool fees.

B. Wakefield said she can't imagine this burden being put on the parks board every year. They were told with the grants that came in not to expect this again. So, going out and finding \$50,000 a year seems like all they will be doing is fundraising and they are volunteers. She is not sure it's fair to ask this group to pick up that burden.

T. Parker said with it being a trust the thought is that it would be a designated group with representation from the Parks Board as the managers of it for the city, but that it might become its own entity. They need to consider the pros and cons as there is more legal issues, but it may become self-sustaining and would not be a drain on the seven members of the board. They would want some community involvement anyhow. He asked the board to take this under advisement and think about these questions and continue the discussion.

ADJOURNMENT:

B. Scholtz MOVED; B. Warden seconded to adjourn the meeting. Vote 6YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEXT MEETING:

October 16, 2018 @ 7:00 pm - Municipal Complex Courtroom (687 Decatur)

~ Gwen Fisher, Boards and Commissions