

The Minutes for the Park Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 20, 2015 at Bellefontaine Neighbors Recreation Center.

Martha Snead opened the Park Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Sally Wahlbrink, Kathy Endorf, Jane Davis, Dave Cross, Craig Scheidker, Martha Snead and Alderman Don Merz.

Absent: Tina Swindle, Judy Mantych and Director of Parks & Recreation; Mark Dickerson.

The Minutes for the Park Board Meeting held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 were accepted as presented.

A discussion followed concerning how this year's Park Reservations compared to 2014. With Tanglewood Park being used the most, St. Cyr and then Bissell Hills the usage for 2015 was pretty much the same as 2014.

A discussion followed concerning the Wine/Beer Event held on Saturday, October 10th. Alderman Don Merz reported there were about 35 people and about 20 of them were new. A discussion followed. It was mentioned some of the new attendees have participated in the adult pool parties. A discussion followed.

Martha Snead reported several residents have suggested we start a Memorial Tree program for individual residents or groups. Martha mentioned a lot of other cities already do this. Mark had me go on-line and I researched a lot of city's who have similar programs to see if it's something we want to start. For most of the cities the charge is \$150.00 and you get a tree planted in honor or memorial of someone and a plaque at the base of the tree. For most of the Cities you are limited to one of the types of trees they plant. You can't just pick out any tree. They have a list of 5 or 10 different trees they feel will grow here and you usually don't get the choice of where the tree will be planted. They tend to leave that up to the Parks & Recreation staff. So that is something we will be considering to see if the City would want to do something like that. In some Cities instead of a tree you can get a bench with the names engraved on the back. The cost for that is approximately \$300.00 to \$350.00 for a memorial bench. If we decide to do this we will have to have a name for the program and an application. Martha asked the Park Board members if this is something we should consider starting and a discussion followed. The cost would be \$150.00 for each tree planted. That fee would cover the cost of the tree and plaque and the maintenance of it. Some cities will guarantee it for five years. That is the low end of the price. I think St. Louis County charges \$250.00 but for a lot of the cities its \$150.00. A discussion followed. Martha mentioned Ferguson does this quite a bit. They may plant 12 trees in November and they do it again in April. Jane Davis asked if they are still doing the bricks at Klein Park and Martha said she doesn't know. A discussion followed including where the trees would be planted. Martha said it's possible you would get a first or second choice on the type of tree as well as a first or second choice of where it will be planted. A discussion followed.

The next discussion concerned the Park Assessment completed by SWT. The Assessment is based on the meeting they had with the Park Board members, the two open houses that were held, the on-line survey and just talking to the Parks & Recreation staff. They put together a very nice brochure and as you go through it you'll see that they did every park. The main point is they would like to see unity among the parks to make sure they are identified as the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors park property. They must also be ADA compatible. Going through this Mark seemed to think some of their suggestions weren't as big a priority as others. He felt we should zero in on Bissell Hills Park and possibly Pruitt Park. But that is all open to discussion and will depend on how much money comes in on the grant. Martha reported she and Craig took a ride the other day and went through each of the parks so I could actually see what our workers have to cut when they

go out there. Seeing the parks from the street is quite different than actually driving in to see how far back they go back and how much has to be maintained. I had no idea it was so much. A discussion followed concerning the Assessment for each park area as well as well as having all the benches and trash cans more uniform. Martha stated Mark is interested in updating Bissell Hills Park since it is the oldest park and in most need of updates. A discussion followed. It was suggested having a walk path and possibly a basketball court set away from the shelter. A discussion followed. Craig suggested not having the basketball court open when there is a park reservation due to the noise factor and Dave suggested having it at the other end of the park. Martha mentioned when someone reserves the Pavilion that is all they have and the rest of the park is open to residents. Sometimes there are problems when other people show up. A discussion followed including how the basketball courts could cause a problem when the park is reserved. It was also mentioned if the Pavilion is redone at Bissell Hills Park it would be nice if there was enough room for picnic tables as well as some lawn furniture. Martha stated she doesn't think Mark is planning on doing anything at Doherty Park yet. Martha reported at Klein Park they mentioned the ADA standards for the walkways as well as landscape renovations. Don Merz reported Klein Park will change when Kroger's comes in with Ruler's. A discussion followed. Craig mentioned making repairs to the pipes so we will have a water source at Klein Park again. A discussion was held concerning Pruitt Park. There is safety concerns since it is so secluded and when you go back there you can do anything and no one can see you. That is why the basketball courts were taken out. SWT suggested a small shelter but there wouldn't be any restrooms. Martha mentioned it would be a good area for bird watching or a reading garden. They also suggested using the theme of the Gabion Walls or planting some native grasses on the big hills our workers have to cut so they would only have to cut it off once a year and they wouldn't have to cut the steep hill. Martha reported it's a neat area and could be a great sculpture park or something like that if we thought there would be any interest in that. A discussion followed. They suggested creating more visibility at Pruitt but that would be a huge job too. A discussion followed. The next discussion concerned St. Cyr Park. Martha mentioned liking that each one of our parks is different. St. Cyr Park is really appealing to me. There are tennis courts, but I don't know if they get used other than for our classes. Martha reported Mark said we really don't need any other tennis courts because they weren't being used that much. A discussion followed. At Tanglewood Park they suggested redoing the Splash Pad which would be cool. They also mentioned with the bridge connecting to the school they suggested an outdoor classroom type area for groups to use. A discussion followed concerning the outdoor classroom as well as the use of the ball fields. Martha mentioned with the ball fields at least 50% of the group has to be residents. A lot of times the coach may live in Bellefontaine but most of the team members don't. So our fields really don't get used that much. For Wilderness Park they suggested an Arboretum where we would have a variety of plants. Martha mentioned the entry area needs to be a little more welcoming. You're never really sure if you should go in there or not. The Street Department will drop off firewood in the parking lot and that could be a little more organized looking. So that might be something to think about. Martha stated that pretty much covers the Assessment. Craig mentioned whatever we do we may not have the manpower to maintain it. Sally Wahlbrink voiced concern about manpower and cost and a discussion followed. Martha mentioned we're talking about native plants and things that minimize the maintenance. A discussion followed including maintenance as well as grants. The Grant application must be turned in by the first week of December. Jane Davis mentioned Bissell Hills Park needs the most work and would probably be the best place to start. A discussion followed.

Craig mentioned the car accident at Tanglewood Park. A discussion followed and Craig went on to inform the Park Board members he and Kris are also working on the new security system at the Recreation Center. He also reported winterizing the fountains on the plaza and golf course as well as the parks.

The Park Board Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Martha Snead

The next Park Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center. Please notify the Recreation Center by calling 867-0700 if you are unable to attend.

Bellefontaine Neighbors Park & Recreation Department
Park Reservations 2015

Total Reservations

Tanglewood = 52 St. Cyr = 36 Bissell = 21 Total = 109
Resident = 80 N/Resident = 22
Church/School = 7
Tanglewood = 5 Bissell = 1 St. Cyr = 1

April

Tanglewood = 3
Total = 3
Church/School = 2
Resident = 1

May

Tanglewood = 14
St. Cyr = 8
Bissell = 6
Total = 28
Church/School – Tanglewood = 2 St. Cyr = 1
Resident = 20 N/Resident = 5

June

Tanglewood = 7
St. Cyr = 6
Bissell = 4
Total = 17
Church/School – Bissell = 1
Resident = 12 N/Resident = 4

July

Tanglewood = 10
St. Cyr = 7
Bissell = 1
Total = 18
Resident = 14 N/Resident = 4

August

Tanglewood = 10
St. Cyr = 8
Bissell = 6
Total = 24
Resident = 17 N/Resident = 7

September

Tanglewood = 8
St. Cyr = 6
Bissell = 4
Total = 18
Church/School- Tanglewood = 1
Resident = 15 N/Resident = 2

October

St. Cyr = 1
Total = 1
Resident = 1

**Bellefontaine Neighbors
Recreation Center Participation**

October 2015

Gameroom:	36
Room # 101:	540
Room # 109:	331
Swimmers:	1,909
Gym Use:	898
Racquetball	
# of hours:	8
# of players:	36
Weight Room:	692
Total Participation:	4,450

Bellefontaine Neighbors Recreation Center Daily

Date: October 2015

Weight Room	\$150.00
Gym Classes	\$1,097.25
Racquetball	\$53.00
Swim Fees	\$100.00
Swim Lessons	\$2,956.75
Room Reservations	\$1,295.00
Park Reservations	\$0.00
Swim Team	\$216.00
Locker Rental	\$12.00
Snack Bar	\$315.00
Gym User Fee	\$63.00
I.D. Card/Passes	\$1,090.00
Special Events	\$2,432.45
Miscellaneous	\$55.15
Miniature Golf	\$98.00
Wash Account	\$42.50
Total	\$9,976.10

**City of Bellefontaine Neighbors
Transportation Service Monthly Report
October 2015**

Medical Appointments	70
Grocery Shopping (Schnucks, Aldi's, Shop n Save)	36
Banking -US Bank, Regions & Commerce	4
Target/Family Dollar / K-Mart	6
Pharmacy Trips	10
Hair Appointments (Bissell, Shear Perfection)	18
Recreation Center (Meetings & Classes)	37
Olive Garden (10/13)	7
Post Office/License Office	3
Nursing Home Visits	1
Walmart (10/26)	3
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Total Participation	195
Total Number of Residents	43
Total Donations	\$0.00