

Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes: July 19, 2022

- Attendees: Anneliese Clear, Charlene Meyer, Carla Belcher
- Absent: Kimberley Stewart
- Guests: Nicole Key, Hamilton County Health Dept / We Thrive (She did not speak at the meeting; she will speak at Aug. mtg.)
- Old Business:
 - o Facility Needs:
 - Ms. Meyer confirmed that the school district will allow after-school programming to take place in school buildings. We would need to notify them of the dates & times.
 - Ms. Clear confirmed that Hilltop Church is a strong possibility. She will reach out to Jevette Williams.
 - o Youth and Community Programs:
 - Not discussed.
 - o City Parks:
 - Schaeper Park
 - Ms. Meyer reports that the school district's regular review by the Health Dept. found that there was not enough mulch at Schaeper Park. Ms. Clear will relay the message to Public Works, although it is likely they are already aware.
 - Wise Park
 - Renovation Pending – Current Phase: Design Specifications
 - Project is being led by CIC & Jewish Federation of Cincinnati.
 - A meeting is scheduled for Wed. July 20 to go over the design with the landscaper, select a project start date, and determine remaining fundraising needs.
 - Dumele Park
 - Renovation in Progress - Current Phase: Parking Lot & Underground Water Lines
 - Ms. Clear shared that the bid for parking lot & underground water lines has closed, and the winner has been selected. Waiting on Council approval for the ordinance authorizing appropriation of expenditure so construction can begin. This phase is expected to be completed in October 2022.
 - Discussed Splash Pad "Competitor Analysis" report that Ms. Clear has been working on. The purpose of this effort is to determine the optimal operating model for the Dumele Splash Pad.
 - The report is incomplete as of this meeting date; however, preliminary data has been obtained from contacting six nearby municipalities that collectively operate 24 splash pads / water play features in the area.
 - There was general alignment regarding several key points; however, additional research is needed before the Commission will be ready to make a formal recommendation.
 - This recommendation must be reviewed, and specifications defined before we can proceed with preparing the request for bids for the next phase of construction.
 - o Fund Development:
 - Ms. Clear met with Mr. Matthew Shad of Clovernook regarding potential uses of Pies Park. During the course of this discussion, it was revealed that Mr. Shad is also a member of the CIC. He recommended that Ms. Clear draft a document outlining the proposed fundraising partnership between the CIC and the Recreation Department. Ms. Clear has drafted a document to be discussed at the next CIC meeting: July 21, 2022.
- New Business:
 - o The question came up as to whether our Charter &/or Ordinances allow for a "Junior" Commissioner (HS Student) to serve on the Recreation Commission. If not, we would like to explore how to get this in place. We all agree that much of what the Recreation Commission is tasked to do would benefit greatly from the perspective of a student participant. This could also allow the student to earn service hours, while also giving them a unique educational opportunity to see first-hand how one aspect of local government operates. [This might also help drive volunteerism.]
- Items Requiring Council Discussion & Vote:
 - o None at this time.
- Action Items:

- o Ms. Clear to draft Fundraising Partnership document for discussion at the next CIC meeting.
- Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 7:00 PM
 - o Special Guest: Nicole Key, Hamilton County Public Health – Topic: WeThrive! Initiatives