

**Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
Held in the Caucus Room of the Municipal Building, 36080 Chester Road,
at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, November 9, 2017**

Chairman Tom Mitchell called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Members in attendance were: Lee Belardo; Mary Berges; Mary Brady; Cady Cianciolo; Vice Chairman John Weigman and Chairman Tom Mitchell

ABSENT:

Diane Corrao – Parks & Recreation Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 12, 2017 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Belardo and seconded by Ms. Brady to adopt the minutes of the October 12, 2017 meeting as published; all Yeas on roll call and motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Election Results

Mr. Mitchell advised the election results yielded a positive vote on the recommendation from the Charter Review Commission to eliminate the Parks and Recreation Commission. Based on these results, he asked for a motion to suspend the meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission until further notice.

Motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Weigman and seconded by Ms. Cianciolo to suspend the meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission until further notice; all Yeas on roll call and motion passed.

REPORTS

- Council Representative – Mary Berges advised the City received a letter a couple of weeks ago that gave preliminary approval for funding from the Clean Ohio Trails Fund in the amount of \$500,000. She said this is only the beginning of the process as there are a lot of moving parts to this grant for the bike path along French Creek. Ms. Berges stated there is a timetable for this project which looks like it takes the City well into 2019 because there are a lot of things that have to happen such as environmental studies and acquiring easements for any property.

Mr. Weigman inquired exactly where along French Creek this proposed trail was going to be located.

Ms. Berges stated along the power lines from Detroit Road to Recreation Lane by the YMCA following the creek. She did not know if it was the SR611 side or the French Creek side in response to a question from Mr. Weigman. Ms. Berges said it really follows the power lines, but it is being called the French Creek Multi-Purpose Trail.

Mr. Mitchell noted that was good news and the whole Commission agreed.

Ms. Berges also updated the Commission Members on the All Inclusive Playground and noted the History Walk that the Landmarks Preservation Commission has been working on for quite a few years is ready to go in next week. She said the Library has a storybook walk that will also be going in next week as well as another piece of playground equipment that should be installed within the next few weeks called an Aeroglider. In addition, there is also going to be some free library bookstands. Ms. Berges noted it was all coming together and there are a number of sponsors that have approached the City.

- Park Director – Diane Corrao was absent.

- School Board Representative – John Weigman advised he was going to follow-up with Superintendent Laub about a pickle ball court and make sure he was in contact with the Parks Director. He believed the school was open to that possibility during regular office hours while someone was in the building. Mr. Weigman said they would have to figure out a way for it to be managed, but he believed one of the first steps was to see if a pickle ball court would fit on that gym.

Mr. Mitchell believed at last month's meeting Ms. Corrao felt the gym was too small for two courts and was not worth the effort to have only one court.

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Mitchell said he had a few housekeeping items with the first being that he turned in his keys to City Hall to Ms. Berges who will get them to the proper person. Second, he emailed out both the Strategic Plan and the most recent Survey results so that everyone has a copy for their records. Finally, he would like to say thank you to Mayor Jensen and City Council for allowing him to serve on the Commission for a number of years. He thanked the other Commission Members and stated it has been a pleasure to get to know those he did not know previously and he has enjoyed it.

Mr. Belardo thanked Mayor Jensen for giving him the opportunity to serve on this Commission and he enjoyed every minute of it and has met a lot of good people and he looks forward to seeing what the City has in store for the community as far as parks and recreation in the future. He said he is looking forward to the bike path.

Ms. Berges expressed her thanks for the opportunity to be on this Commission. She said she has learned a lot over the years and she appreciates the input from everyone on the Commission and their dedication. Ms. Berges thanked Mr. Mitchell for leading the charge and keeping them in line the last couple of years. She thanked Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Weigman for the tremendous amount of work they did on the Survey as they made them all look good and it is appreciated and the Survey was well received and a good blueprint going forward for Ms. Corrao. Ms. Berges said it has been her pleasure and she is going to miss having these meetings.

Ms. Brady stated she is the newest member and she thanked them for allowing her to be a part of it and she has enjoyed it. She felt they would just go on to bigger and better things.

Ms. Cianciolo said she loved being a part of this Commission and meeting everyone and learning a ton that she could not have even fathomed years ago when she was asked to serve. She stated it was a great opportunity and she is thrilled she said yes and it has been very enjoyable.

Mr. Weigman thanked everyone and said it has been a lot of fun. He said he and Mr. Mitchell have served a long time now. Mr. Weigman noted he has served two different stints and he will definitely miss them as well, but was certain they would see each other around town. He was thankful for the opportunity to get together and help plan some of Avon's Parks and Rec actions. He wished Ms. Corrao good luck followed by agreement from the other members wishing her well and that she was missed at tonight's meeting. The Commission Members made it clear they were available should Ms. Corrao or the City need to contact them for any reason.

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Ms. Brady and seconded by Ms. Berges to adjourn the meeting, all in favor and motion passed.