



Tuscora Park Board Meeting May 19, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 12 Noon by board president Jan McInturf. A quorum was present with other members Tom Farbizo, Dave Frantz, Denny Gallentine and Jim Range in attendance. Excused were Phil Tidrick and Bill Morgan. Absent was Courtney Shalosky. Guests were City Parks Department Superintendent Rod Miller, City Parks Department Assistant Superintendent Chase Hostetler, Mayor Joel Day, City Council liaison Aimee May and 11 members of a local pickleball organization.

The board's meeting minutes from April 17th were corrected as follows: under "New Business", Rod and Tom were going to get the estimates for a new restroom and pickle ball courts. Ron was going to get an estimate for the road extension at the Southside Community Park. The minutes as corrected were unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. Range and a second by Mr. Farbizo.

Public Comments

Joy Dawson gave a presentation on behalf of the pickle ball organization, encouraging board members to support their request for converting the use of the upper tennis courts to pickle ball courts. The board informed the group that construction of pickle ball courts and a new restroom were planned in phase three of the Park Board's outdoor recreation improvements at Tuscora Park. Ms. Dawson said a member of their group, Karen Jenkins, offered to help search for money and write grants to pay for the construction.

Following the presentation, the board held a lengthy discussion on pickle ball court construction. All agreed that fundraising was the top priority, and it could be a project for the Tuscora Park Foundation to undertake. President McInturf said he would contact Jeff Funk of the pickle ball group to tell him that the group should focus on fundraising. The board members agreed that four courts should be built. Meantime, Supt. Miller said he would have signs erected at the tennis courts warning against the removal of taped pickle ball court markings.

Tuscora Park Foundation News

Mr. Farbizo reported that Vasco Sports of Massillon will begin the reconstruction of the City's three basketball courts on July 12th. The courts color scheme will match those on the tennis courts. The existing poles will be reused. He was still working on getting donations for new hoops and backboards.

Old Business

1. Supt. Miller reported that the park pool may only have 12 lifeguards to open the season. The main concession stand still needs employees too. The park rides will open. RTY's Summer Showcase concerts will start Memorial Day weekend.
2. Everything is progressing toward holding the First Town Days Festival in July.
3. Supt. Miller said he's still waiting for materials to come up for repairs to the Skate Park.
4. Stadium lease – Mayor Day reported that the New Philadelphia school board is still deliberating on whether to accept the lease adopted by City Council. He said progress is being made.
5. The grand opening of the Park Place Youth Center is on Thursday May 27th at 10:30am. President McInturf said he would ask Youth Center director Holly Klaus to attend the board's June 16th meeting to give a report on the center's activities.
6. There is still a punch list of incompletd tasks at the Southside Community Park project. The work has to be completed by the park's grand opening and Tuscora Park Foundation Chicken BBQ event on Saturday June 19th.
7. Grand Opening Tickets – 20 tickets were given to each member to sell for the June 19th Chicken BBQ.

New Business

1. There was a discussion about ReMax realtors wanting to have a dog "Adopt-a-Thon" on the same day as the Southside park grand opening. The members declined the request because of the activities already scheduled for that day. *Motion: by Mr. Range to ask ReMax to schedule their event on another day. Second by Mr. Farbizo. Unanimously adopted.*
2. The board discussed Councilman Dean Holland's request for bleachers be placed on the bank overlooking field #8 at the Waterworks Park. Supt. Miller said that there are four bleachers not being used at the skate park that could be moved to the bank.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:18pm following a motion by Mr. Farbizo and second by Mr. Range.

Respectfully submitted by,

Joel B. Day, acting secretary