

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY OF AURORA
May 20, 2019

The Recreation Advisory Committee of the City of Aurora, Ohio, met on Monday, May 20, 2019 at Aurora City Hall Council Chambers, for the purpose of holding a regular meeting. Mr. Conces called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Pete Conces- Chairman
Mike DeMay
AJ Sobodosh
Katie Trook
Scott Weber
Scott Wolf

Absent: Nina DeWitt

Also Present: Laura Holman – Parks and Recreation Director
Amy Martin - Recording Secretary

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

Mr. Weber moved to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2019 meeting. Mr. Conces seconded and the motion passed, 5–0 with a voice vote. Mr. Weber abstained.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Area Updates:

Arborist:

Ben submitted a public service article to the local newspapers about the dangers of volcano mulching. Help spread the word and educate people about how to properly mulch! Mulching Day was Saturday, May 18th. Volunteers from Moebius Nature Center, Rotary Club of Aurora/Interact, and Scouts assisted in mulching at Sunny Lake Park.

Community Education

Summer brochure is scheduled for delivery this week.

Community Events

Friday, May 17th was our annual Youth Track Meet. Saturday, May 18th was the Perennial Sale & Swap at Moebius Nature Center. Here come summer events, including the first concert of the Summer Series on Wednesday, June 5th: local favorite Chardon Polka Band is back by popular demand. New this year: Drive-in Movie on Wednesday, July 3rd.

Fields

All 14 ballfields throughout town and the new soccer fields on Townline Road are being well maintained and well utilized. We thank the Aurora Baseball League for improving the dugouts on W Pioneer Trail fields 1 & 2.

Parks

Playground equipment has been ordered for Liz Strahan, Sheldon, Kiwanis and Sunny Lake Parks. Replacement parts for slides at Liz Strahan and Sheldon, new swing set for Sheldon, replacement swing sets at Kiwanis Moore Park and Sunny Lake Park (tot swing). We are pleased to add an adaptive seat to the swing at Sheldon Park and an expressions adaptive seat to the set at Kiwanis Moore Park. This special seat allows someone to swing facing the child in the adaptive seat. Replacement and new skate park equipment is being quoted. Boathouse will open Memorial Day weekend under city management. Beautification continues, with flowers coming in this week.

Seniors

Going strong! Fun new outing: Colleen added an extra Cleveland Indians 'party bus' game to the schedule and all 53 seats on the bus sold out.

Sports

Spring sports are underway. Moving spring soccer to the new Town Line Road fields has been well received. Aurora Baseball League's tournament is June 6-10.

Project/Program Updates

Hartman Farm

An electrical plan was developed and final installation is taking place. Plans for ADA parking, restrooms, and shelters are moving forward. Contract with King Excavating will need to be extended due to weather conditions (wetness). Plans to alleviate drainage issues on the north end are being identified.

Community Garden

Garden plots were tilled (or not, according to gardener preference) last week. New hose reels were installed. We received a donation of beneficial insect houses from Nature's Way, and one of the gardeners is planning to put in a honeybee colony.

Walker Building Improvements

Please pardon our dust as we work to improve the Walker Building. Carpeting coming next month.

Rec Center Demand Study

We are evaluating a proposal for a recreation center demand study. Scope of services would include data on the community's current demographics and spending trends in order to determine our interest and ability to support a recreation facility. Once demand is identified,

the study would analyze physical, operational and financial characteristics of facilities comparable to those considered feasible.

Possible Areas of Study:

Existing Aurora Demographics & Spending Trends

Existing Recreation Inventory

Recreation Demand Analysis

Recreation Center Costs

OLD BUSINESS:

Calendar: Next two meetings will be Monday, August 12 and November 11 at 6:30pm at City Hall.

NEW BUSINESS:

220 Update- Custom banners will be placed in the center of town. The Chamber of Commerce created a then and now cover that will be sent out to all local businesses. Shirts worn by volunteers for the citywide cleanup were bright yellow and had 220 on the back. Suggesting that floats are designed around the 220 theme. There will be a Buckeye tree planted at City Hall to commemorate 220. Grand Marshal Nominations are being accepted until May 31st.

MISCELLANOUS:

Ms. Trook discussed a few things that the Historical Society has in mind.

- 1) Displaying old pictures in Heinens of Geauga Lake, Town Center and Aurora sports commemorating 220.
- 2) Event in September for children geared around Aurora history.

Mr. Wolf suggested that we ask participants to throw the candy behind the kids for safety reasons.

Mr. Weber asked if there was a possibility that Hartman Farms would be like Sunny Lake as far as sanitary/sewer. Laura Holman stated that no current plans are in place to do that at this time.

Mr. Weber asked if the old Rec Center committee would be reengaged. Laura Holman explained that no conversations have taken place regarding committees.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Wolf moved to adjourn: Mr. Sobodosh seconded and the meeting adjourned at 7:20pm. Motion carried with voice vote of 6-0.

Mr. Pete Conces – Chairman

Amy Martin – Recording Secretary