



**REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023 @ 6:00 PM
MGC COMMISSION CHAMBERS
201 WEST WATER STREET, PIQUA, OHIO 45356**

City of Piqua Park Board met at 6:00 P.M. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street.

Roll Call as follows: Board Members Present: Marcia Garrett, Natalie Young, Cathy Oda, Terry Wright, Zachary Gordon, and Phillip Moyer. City Commission Representative Present: Cindy Pearson. Staff Present: Amy Welker and Melissa Kinney.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Phillip Moyer called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cathy Oda moved for approval of the Meeting Minutes from the February 1, 2023, Park Board Meeting; motion was seconded by Cindy Pearson. Motion carried unanimously; Meeting Minutes approved.

NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

Amy welcomed newly appointed members Zachary Gordon and Terry Wright to their first Park Board Meeting. Each board member introduced him/herself to the new members. Amy said that there is still one more vacancy on the board to fill.

GOLF BOARD APPOINTMENT

Amy announced that the term for Eric White as the Park Board Representative to the Golf Advisory Board expired on March 1st, 2023. She asked for nominations of a new representative. Cathy Oda moved to nominate Zachary Gordon, and the motion was seconded by Marcia Garrett. Motion carried unanimously; Zachary Gordon will be the Park Board Representative.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Amy reported that Mayor Pearson read a Proclamation at the City Commission Meeting on February 21, 2023, honoring 2022 Volunteers. Cathy Oda sent out Thank You cards for immediate recognition of some recent volunteers. We are continuing to build a list of Volunteers for 2023 and going forward. Amy announced that there are 2 upcoming Volunteer Projects scheduled—Crane Pumps at Mote Park the week of April 17th and Buckeye Insurance at Pitsenbarger Park on May 10th.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Citizen Jeff Lange of POWW expressed his disappointment that the Adopt-A-Park signs were removed, as he really enjoyed having his parents' names on the Roadside Park sign. He would like another program established. It was suggested that a memorial tree could be a solution for this situation.

WORK PLAN

Amy passed out both the Winter and Spring Work Plans. She explained to the new members that this work plan was created last year so that the Parks Dept. has maintenance standards to track, monitor and accomplish goals. Amy said that adding a 5th staff member to the Parks crew and 6 seasonal workers will help keep up the 18 parks and 13 miles of bike path, as four is just not enough.

PROJECT LIST

Amy provided an update on some of the bigger projects going on in the parks currently, such as Lock 9. She said there will be a general contractor chosen soon, with possible construction beginning in the near future. Phillip Moyer commented that he would like to see the plans for the Lock 9 Park and to speak with the Development Director about it. Amy also went over other projects in the parks, such as a new picnic shelter being built at Pitsenbarger next to the baseball fields, the Ohio to Indiana Bridge possibly getting opened soon, the need for a community discussion about usage of Hance Pavilion, and bike path repairs and paving needed.

TURF MAINTENANCE PLAN

Amy informed the board that the Parks Division is in the process of developing a robust turf maintenance plan that focuses on the health of the sport turfs and fields. She handed out a rough draft copy of the new plan and said the Parks Department is committed to making these areas better and safer for kids. Zachary Gordon suggested a better fertilizer plan and offered his lawn care expertise.

SIGNS

Amy shared that Quint Creative Signs has been chosen to produce new signage for all of the parks this year. We want low maintenance materials that will last over time, and graffiti is a big concern.

BOARD LANGUAGE (RES. NO. 38-03)

Amy shared that a board member wanted to discuss the code language in regard to the Golf Advisory Board and Park Board. Mr. Wright said that currently there is only language about a member of the Park Board being on the Golf Advisory Board in the Golf Board's language. He would like to add this into the Park Board language.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Marcia Garrett mentioned that the walking path at Fountain Park needs repaved.

Natalie Young is concerned about a large tree on the bike path up High Street. Amy will have the Parks crew check on this. Natalie also said that the restrooms at Pitsenbarger Park need more attention during the open season. Amy confirmed that the restrooms are cleaned daily when the season is open and that she has asked the Sports League volunteers to help out as well with the restrooms as needed.

Phillip Moyer asked about a tree program for the city. Amy will inquire about this to Bob Graeser, who runs the Tree Committee. Phillip also asked about contacting Miami County Parks, to which Amy said that she knows the Director and has done so in the past. Phillip also would like for the city to consider less mowing and to convert more areas to prairie grass.

Zachary Gordon recommended that there be more frequent mowing at the parks, especially before sports tournaments.

ADJOURNMENT

Cindy Pearson moved for adjournment of the meeting; motion was seconded by Natalie Young. Motion carried unanimously. The Park Board Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.