

**City of Norton**  
**PARK AND CEMETERY BOARD**  
**Wednesday, May 18, 2016**

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The Park and Cemetery Board of the City of Norton, Ohio, convened for a public meeting in Council Chambers at the Safety Administration Building. Chairman Stimac called the meeting to order at 5:18 p.m.

**I. ATTENDANCE:**

**PRESENT:** Ruth Stimac, Ada Waltz, Jesse Prather, Tracy Rainer  
**EXCUSED:** Neva Gibson  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Valerie Carr, Administrative Officer  
Charlotte Whipkey, At-Large Council President

**II. PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

None

**III. NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Loyal Oak Cemetery – Grace United Church of Christ

Ms. Carr shared an overview of her meeting with representatives from Grace Church regarding their desire to donate the Loyal Oak Cemetery to the city. She then discussed with park board the differences regarding public vs. private cemeteries. Carr shared the maps, pricing, and other information that the current caretaker provided. Board Member Prather shared his concern regarding the record keeping and noted the maps did not provide details of the individual burials. He has experience with cemetery bookkeeping and shared older non-profit cemeteries, such as this one; pose multiple problems, including heir rights. Carr shared that was a concern she posed to the Cemetery representatives. Prather also stated that in his opinion the fees should be doubled and a full-time person would be needed just to market the Cemetery. In agreement with Prather, attending board members, Waltz, Stimac and Ranier agreed the city is not currently in a position to financially accept the donation of said cemetery. A resolution was adopted and is included in detail below with other Resolutions presented this evening.

B. Bicentennial Brick Program – Veterans Memorial

Ms. Carr presented the historical society is erecting a flagpole that will be installed on Administration grounds on Flag Day, June 14th. The flagpole came from the former Fire Station. This flag pole will serve as a focal point for the Veterans project that board member Prather has been researching for several months as a means to honor Norton Veterans and others with a significance to Norton. Engraved bricks will be part of the memorial. This Bicentennial Brick Program will be explored in greater detail at next month's Parks Meeting.

### C. Tree City – Fourth Year

Member Waltz and Ms. Carr attended the ceremony that honored Norton and its fourth year as a Tree City USA. A Rosebush, won by Waltz and donated back to city by her, will be planted at the Community Center. The city was presented with a Londonberry tree, which will grow to 75 feet tall. This will be planted in Columbia Woods Park. Waltz was congratulated and thanked for her dedication to the coursework she is completing for Tree City requirements.

### D. Loyal Oak Soccer Goals

President Stimac shared old and unused goals need to be removed from Loyal Oak soccer fields. Carr will look into this and have removed.

## **IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Item A –Summer Parks Program**

Member Ranier shared flyers for the 2016 Summer Recreation Program for students entering grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> went home to Norton City Elementaries. Registration would be held at the Admin Center on Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 to 11:00. The Registration fee is \$50 for 1<sup>st</sup> child and \$35 for additional siblings. The program is limited to 40 children this year as it is funded fully by registration fees and two small grants – one from Walmart and a PR grant from NEOEA (North East Ohio Education Association) that will cover t-shirt costs.

### **Item B. Park Fees and Rules NCO 1066; Feeding Animals Ord #67-2015; Ord #71-2015 Park Rules – Dogs in the Park**

NCO 1066: Discussion ensued regarding deposits being charged by non-profits. Member Waltz suggested a deposit of \$100. May be difficult for some groups. Member Gibson had sent email in agreement with proposed fees/rules. Carr orally presented this. Ms. Carr suggested the non-profit fees could be piloted for one year. Member Stimac presented that non-profits sign a contract stating they would assume financial responsibility for any damages ensued during their usage and that a cleaning fee is added if there was a problem left. Member Waltz suggested a minimum of a \$25 cleaning fee. Member Ranier agreed. Carr stated a 5013c status must be on file for all non-profits with proof their membership is made up of 50% Norton residents for fee to be waived.

Ord#67-2015: President Stimac presented language needs to be added to ordinance regarding feeding of all wildlife, to ensure the geese are not being fed.

Ord#71-2015 President Stimac suggested adding the provision to current language, which would prevent dogs from being in parks during Park-Wide, Special Events, to help control integrity of special events.

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY PARK BOARD:**

**NCO 1066 – Park Fees and Rules –Resolution 1**

Proposed fees and rules presented to Parks Board last month were approved with the contract language, responsibility for damages and a minimum of a \$25 cleaning fee if deemed necessary. Prather motioned to accept parks fees and rules as presented. Waltz second. Resolution passed with unanimous vote of four attending members.

**Ord #67-2015 – Feeding Animals – Resolution 2**

Ranier motioned resolution of acceptance with language to apply to parks. Waltz second. Resolution passed with unanimous vote of four attending members.

**Ord#71-2015 Park Rules – Dogs in Park-Resolution 3**

Resolution motion, which includes addition of” no dogs in park during park-wide city events, at discretion of City Administrator,” made by Prather. Ranier second. Unanimous passage by four of attending members.

**Donation of Loyal Oak Cemetery from Grace United Church of Christ Resolution 4**

The motion to **not** accept the donation of said cemetery by the city made by Prather. Second by Waltz. Unanimous passage by attending four members.

**–CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:**

Member Prather moved to approve the minutes as written. Ms. Waltz seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL: Ms. Waltz-Yes, Ms. Stimac-Yes, Mr. Prather-Yes, Ms. Ranier-Yes,. Motion to Approve passed 4-0.**

**V. ADJOURNMENT:**

Next meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup>. With no further business before the Board, Ms. Stimac adjourned the meeting at 6:20 pm.

  
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Park-Cemetery Board  
Chairman / Vice-Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Park-Cemetery Board  
Vice-Chairman / Member

Date

**\* ORIGINAL SIGNED DOCUMENTS ON FILE WITH THE CLERK OF COUNCIL \***