

PARKS & CEMETERY BOARD CITY OF NORTON

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

The Park and Cemetery Board of the City of Norton, Ohio convened for a public meeting in Council Chambers of the Safety Administration Building. Chairperson Stimac called the meeting to order at 5:45p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Ruth Stimac, Ada Waltz, Tracy Ranier

ABSENT: Neva Gibson, Bill Courson

ALSO PRESENT: Valerie Wax Carr

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairperson Stimac read the resignation email from Mr. Bill Courson. Chairperson Stimac stated that it is now official that Mr. Courson has resigned.

Chairperson Stimac stated that we would discuss the Summer Rec Program. Ms. Ranier stated that back some years ago that the City of Norton has a Summer Rec program for the children in the community and she had talked to Mayor Zita to maybe try to consider the program again maybe on a smaller basis and that it is a benefit to the community. She stated that Jacqui Jensen was the program director for many years and she knows that the city rents out the pavilions through the summer. Ms. Ranier stated the reason for bringing it up so early is it takes time to contact the different organizations that would come to entertain the children. Ms. Wax Carr stated that if it is free the city does not have anything in the budget. Ms. Ranier stated that they used to charge and we could have each child pay a fee and that would be used to pay for those types of programs. Ms. Ranier stated that she would like to have a hand in the program not as the head person but helping to get it started back the right way. Ms. Wax Carr stated that she would check into the program information and Ms. Ranier stated that maybe for the first year that we could have just a certain amount of children to start. Ms. Ranier stated that they could probably have some of the children from the high school that needs hours for graduation that could help with the program. Chairperson Stimac stated that maybe that some of the community organizations may be able to help with some of this program also. Ms. Ranier stated that maybe we could do this on a trial basis this year, we need to book the times and say maybe Tuesdays and Thursdays and then get the word out that there will only be so many and then see how it works. Ms. Stimac stated that maybe we could just to like a six week program and Ms. Ranier stated that is what we could do. Ms. Wax Carr asked if the program is a drop and come back and Ms. Ranier stated that yes it is drop and come back and it ran about two hours. There was more discussion for the Summer Rec Program.

Ms. Wax Carr stated that she is waiting for the budgets to finish up and then she would like to have the roll out of the Adopt a Spot. She stated that she talked to Ernie Reynolds about making up a sample sign which they are thinking hunter green background with white lettering to show who the sponsor is and who takes care of it so the board could see that the letters would be able to be removed if the areas changed. Ms. Wax Carr stated that they have laid out twenty one to twenty five spots that would be the start for the areas. Ms. Wax Carr stated she would like to revamp Clean up Day and she knows that it might be too early to plant but she would like to have a little more ceremonial to kick it off. She would like to have the Arbor Day ceremony with the program. Ms. Wax Carr stated that Ms. Gibson stated that she has nine groups and with the Kiwanis that is ten groups. Chairperson Stimac asked Ms. Wax Carr if Claire's is on the list and she stated that name is not on the list yet and Ms. Stimac stated she would talk with them about being part of it. Chairperson Stimac stated that Claire's Garden has a connection with wholesale places that could help us with buying the flowers. There was more discussion concerning the Adopt a Spot information.

Ms. Wax Carr stated she would like to give some advice for the board like a mission statement and some committees like Adopt a Spot and Tree City and that way she would know who to meet with and then you would come to the board and that person could report on the discussions of what they talked about. Ms. Wax Carr also stated that the board really could have a meeting every other month and then during the summer when the parks are busier then you could do a meeting every month. Ms. Stimac also stated that she really misses Ms. Merrick and she always gave us a lot of information about the cemeteries and historical information and she has done so much to help in those areas. Ms. Wax Carr stated that she wanted to let the board know that they are looking at doing an analysis with the community center. She stated that they are going to be doing some upgrades to the building and they received a grant to help pay for that. Ms. Ranier stated that goes back to the spending of the previous times but she stated that we do

need a senior citizens place. Ms. Wax Carr stated that she is going to start watching closely with the use of the fields and the centers use and it needs to be a majority of people that live in Norton. There was more discussion concerning the Community Center. The board talked about getting a mission statement for the Parks & Cemetery Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

The board discussed the elections for the chairperson and vice-chairperson and the appointment to the Planning Commission that will be in March. Ms. Ranier stated that the ground breaking for the school will be Saturday, November 22, 2014.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

The board reviewed the minutes of Wednesday, September 17, 2014. Chairperson Stimac called for a motion to approve the minutes from September 17, 2014. Ms. Ranier made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted and Ms. Waltz seconded the motion. **Roll Call: Ms. Ranier – Yes, Ms. Waltz - Yes, Ms. Stimac – Yes. The minutes were approved 3 - 0.**

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson Stimac stated the next meeting would be Wednesday, January 28, 2015. With no further business coming before the Board, Chairperson Stimac adjourned the meeting at 7:00p.m.

Parks and Cemetery Board Chairperson/or Vice-Chair

Parks & Cemetery Board Vice-Chair/or Member

Date:

Final minutes approved and signed at the meeting on January 28, 2014 and signed original is on file with the Clerk of Council.