



**City of Covington
Parks & Recreation Commission
Minutes**

February 19, 2014
6:00 PM

Covington Council Large Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.
ROLL CALL Liz Fast, Laura Morrissey, Steve Pand, William Pand, Conni Elliott
Excused Absence: Dave Aldous, Troy McIntyre
Unexcused Absence: NA
CITY STAFF PRESENT Scott Thomas, Angie Feser (Parks Planner)
APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. The January meeting minutes were approved with a change to the year (2014).

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

There was no continued business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Office Elections** – the CM unanimously approved the election of Steve Pand as Chair and Conni Elliott as Secretary. The nomination/voting for Vice President was tabled to the next meeting in hopes that CM McIntyre and Aldous can attend.
2. **Covington Community Sports Update** – Scott apprised the CM of the status of taking over CCS programs. Discussion centered on mailing lists, programs, transition, and facility utilization.
3. **Parks CIP Review** – Angie advised that we will spend more time on this next month. CM Pand asked about the City Park vs. City Hall, separating the two projects and about potential wetlands issues at Covington Elem. Scott encouraged the CM to attend the March 25 City Council meeting.
4. **Status and Dollars in Park Acquisition** – We have some willing sellers in Covington for park property, and Scott is working on leveraging seed money and grant funding for the acquisition of property for future park development.
5. **Report on Utility Tax Funds** – About 2/3 of the Parks Maintenance fund is going to CCP1, and we have some small balance in the fund.
6. **Report on Parks & Recreation Budget** – Parks continues to be in deficit-spending mode. 2016 is the year that we need to plan for significant funding resources. Part of the problem stems from the sales tax reduction (25% to 16%) and the TBD having not passed. We will see an increase in order to bring on the staff in support of the athletic program.
7. **Arbor Day Celebration (April)** – Angie is proposing an educational seminar at Jenkins Creek Elementary for Arbor Day this year. She envisions a lecture/program, with children taking home seedlings, and a tree planting in the school’s entry plaza to replace damaged/removed trees. CM Pand suggested the planting of tree/s be tied into the Tree City program. Scott will discuss the Tree City issues with Angie.
8. **Additional Hours for Recreation Staff for Covington Days & Branding** – CM Pand reported that CEDC is working with the City to get a new branding campaign, which could be completed by summer 2014 (instead of 2015). The Council has approved additional hours for the recreation

assistant to work on the branding and Covington Days program. The new branding is very positive. The new tag line is “growing toward greatness”.

9. **Jenkins Creek Park Boardwalk** – there is a beam on the boardwalk over the spring that is starting to fail. This would mean that access to the lower/western part of the park would be eliminated. Removing the beam/boardwalk could mean closing the park for 2-5 years, depending on how long the CDBG bridge and bike path project takes. Angie and Scott propose to close the boardwalk with a chain and signage, until it is repaired, rather than removing it right away.
10. **Jenkins Creek Park/Possible 272nd Improvements, Offsite Wetland Mitigation** – the City is in the process of designing the bridge (causeway) over Jenkins Creek as part of the 272nd Street/Highway 516 capital improvement project. The consultants who are designing the project are looking at two different proposals to use Jenkins Creek Park for the wetlands mitigation.
11. Scott also mentioned that the Parks Department is seeking to be included in the design and replacement of the park bridge that crosses Jenkins Creek, including a trail that extends all the way through the park connecting Timberlane to Wax Road/SE180th Street. CM Pand will ask Don Vondran about these plans and the follow up report on maintenance expenses and the new reporting system.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Conni will make the report for the Parks Commission at the Council meeting on Tuesday, Feb 25.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Conni Elliott

Secretary, Parks and Recreation Commission