



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

October 15, 2014
6:00 PM

Covington City Hall

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.
ROLL CALL Laura Morrissey, Liz Fast, Dave Aldous
Excused Absence: Steve Pand, William Pand, Conni Elliott
Unexcused Absence: Troy McIntyre
CITY STAFF PRESENT Angie Feser, Parks Planner, Pat Patterson, Recreation Manager, Sean Conway, Athletics Specialist

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was unable to be approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The August minutes were unable to be approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

NEW BUSINESS

1. Recreation Program Annual Report

Pat gave his annual Recreation report. The overall increased attendance was what really stood out to me: Concerts in the Park increased attendance from an average of 85 in 2012 to an average of 148 in 2014, despite moving location every year. The KidsFest had 20 people in 2012; this year there were 750-1000 people that came through. The Covington Days Festival and Tree Lighting have also grown in size. There is still the potential for all of these events to get even bigger as they become more established and Recreation is able to secure more funding (through budget increases or other sources, like sponsorships). KidsFest in particular has a lot of room for growth.

Shawn talked briefly about the take-off of Covington Sports. Soccer numbers were down from CCS' numbers (they had 500+, we have 400+), which Shawn anticipated. Volleyball, however, is exactly even with CCS' numbers (200), so in that sport at least we have already caught up to them. Basketball, which doesn't even begin until January, already has 75 kids registered. Shawn has worked amazingly hard starting this sports program basically from scratch, as he was not given the names or contact information for any players or coaches from CCS. Much of the growth has come from word of mouth. I have seen Shawn's program first-hand as my girls are playing soccer through Covington Sports (and are on Shawn's team). In three months Shawn has put together a sports program that already feels robust, which is incredible.

2. Parks Update – grant awards, planning and projects

Angie gave a quick run-down on the parks projects she is currently working on:

- a. Dave Aldous is will be the parks representative for the committee that will choose the contract firm for the PROS plan. I believe Angie said that selection would happen around year's end
- b. The Park Impact Fee Study is wrapping up and the consultant will be back at the next commission meeting to give us an update.
- c. With grants, 3.1 million for CCP phase 2. Some of that money is dependent on legislative funding (it's been awarded to us, but if the legislature cuts the budget pot that may affect us). The

estimate for phase 2 construction is 4.8 million. Angie is planning to go for another legislative grant in the spring for the difference.

- d. CCP Phase 1 details are slowly wrapping up. Angie and I are working on the interpretive signs for the trail system. Those should be installed in the spring.
- e. Third time was a charm for the Aquatic Center bid for roof replacement and room remodel. We have a successful bid, contracts are being signed, and Rob recommended the city kick in an extra \$100,000 to cover the overrun, which the City Council is expected to approve.
- f. The Jenkins Creek boardwalk is repaired. Angie says the park will fall into the center of the Earth before the boardwalk fails again.

3. Budget Review and Comment

Angie gave an general overview of the 2015 Parks and Recreation operating and capital budgets including changes in estimated revenues and expenditures and the various operating and capital decision card requests.

4. Commission Terms

Liz and Dave are not planning to re-apply for their commissioner positions. Both of them said that they feel like they have accomplished their mission of seeing parks and recreation programming restored to the city. Wil is also not planning to re-apply due to attending college.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

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PUBLIC COMMENT

George Pearson, who volunteers his time to maintain much of Jenkins Creek Park, expressed his concerns with hearing that Park Commissioners had stated the lower park was not maintained. The Commissioners and staff reassured and thanked him for all the work he does in the park and expressed it was a possible misunderstanding.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Angie Feser
Parks Planner