



City of Covington
Parks & Recreation Commission
Minutes

May 18, 2011
6:00 pm

Covington Aquatic Center

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL Present: Dave Aldous, Conni Elliott, Kollin Higgins, Bryan Higgins, Steve Pand and William Pand
Excused: Liz Fast

CITY STAFF PRESENT Scott Thomas, Pat Patterson, Ethan Newton

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The April minutes were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizens were present.

- CONTINUED BUSINESS
1. **2012 Capital and Operating Budget Priorities (2 of 2)** – The CM confirmed to Scott their 2012 budget priorities and capital projects. The priorities are 1) Covington Community Park; 2) replacement of Jenkins Creek Park bridge; and 3) Parks impact fees. Scott suggested that other topics could include small projects such as trail improvement/development. The CM discussed grants for school access improvement that could be used to do some trail improvement for the paths/trails that lead to local schools.
 2. **New Member Orientation** – Some of the old documents that CM were given were reviewed for relevance in distributing to new CM. The prevailing discussion supported that the PROS Plan supplants many of the older plans and surveys. CM Higgins suggested that the TPL survey would be relevant for any new members. The PROS Plan is available online so that the CM can choose a hard copy or electronic copy.
 3. **Rules of Procedure Project** – CM Pand distributed the latest draft of the Parks & Recreation Commission Rules of Procedure for review.
 4. **Park Descriptions Project Report** – The output for the Park Description should be sent as a Word document. CM Higgins and Elliott will wrap up the project within the next 3 weeks.

- NEW BUSINESS
1. **Aquatics Update** – Ethan Newton reviewed the Aquatic Center Annual Report. Highlights included an increase in cost recovery for 2010, up to 63% compared to 59% in 2009. The net cost to operate the Aquatic Center was reduced from \$130k in 2009 to just \$92,038 in 2010. The value of the Aquatic Center was stressed in safety, health & fitness, and the high quality standards in the programs, facility maintenance, and training of staff. CM and staff discussed different community outreach and programs that would be high visibility projects and increase the awareness about the Aquatic Center.
 2. **Plan for Park Tour (June Meeting)** – The June meeting will be a trail tour to explore the tri-city trail, pipeline trail and the Jenkins Creek trail. The tour will start at City Hall.
 3. **Plan for Parks & Recreation Month (July)** – During the July meeting, Pat Patterson will present his Recreation report/plan. Scott believes we will know what grant funding we will have at this time. CM Kollin Higgins suggested and the CM discussed a “soft opening” for the CCP.
 4. **Plan for Joint Arts, Parks & Council Meeting (Sep)** – The September meeting will be a State of the City meeting and joint meeting with the Arts Commission. The collaboration topic may be regarding the City’s upcoming public engagement project.
 5. **Future Agenda Items and/or Questions** – CM William Pand and Steve Pand discussed what they found on the Jenkins Creek Trail and a chimney they found near the trail. CM Steve Pand suggested that we find out and take steps to either classify it as a historic item or have it removed if it doesn’t qualify. He also reported that the trail is in pretty good shape.
- GOOD OF THE ORDER
- Scott discussed a potential plan for Arbor Day 2012 involving planting a friendship tree with a group of Japanese foreign exchange students. The CM were in favor of the idea.
 - Scott suggested that CM Aldous start the brochure project to identify the plantings that have occurred in the City in the last 10 years.

COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

The Covington Community Sports contract is being renewed “as is”. Pat Patterson will report on this in the July meeting. CM indicated some of the information that the Commission should be asking for.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Conni Elliott

Conni Elliott
Parks & Recreation Commission, Secretary