

**Huron Joint Recreation District
Regular Board Meeting – Minutes
Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 6:30pm
Huron Boat Basin Marina Building, Huron, OH**

Members Present: Joe Dike, Rene’ Franklin, Tim Golling, Jen Kilbury, Jodi Mast

Present from HPRD/City of Huron: Doug Steinwart, Brian Croucher

Members Absent: Gordon Hahn, Tom Solberg, Julie Spitzley, Chuck Thompson

Community members in attendance: None

Meeting called to order by Mr. Golling. Motion to approve minutes as presented from the Sept. 4, 2018 meeting by Ms. Kilbury, seconded by Ms. Mast; motion approved.

Audience comments: None

OLD BUSINESS

A. Potential Property Donation

Mr. Steinwart stated that during the September meeting, Ms. Spitzley indicated that her family was interested in donating about 7.5 acres adjacent to Woodlands School; with stated use for “education or recreation.” He provided Board with copies of map indicating location. Mr. Steinwart has reported the donation discussion to the City Manager and Law Director, and also reported positive feedback from the HJRD Board. Last week the City Manager informed City Council of the offer, with the intentions of moving forward with discussions with the Dreffer family. Ms. Mast stated that this land was originally offered to the School District—while the Schools were very appreciative of the offer, they did not have the ability to specify use, even within their five-year forecast. Mr. Golling stated that he had spoken with Ms. Spitzley, and the family would like this “closed” by the end of the year; he suggested that we could be pro-active.

Mr. Steinwart also followed-up on two more subjects: 1) He reported that proposal/costs for lighting the Lighthouse (either two-sides or four-sides) have been received by the City; for a council decision. Mr. Dike made a motion to support lighting all four sides; seconded by Ms. Kilbury. Motion passed unanimously; and 2) Mr. Steinwart followed-up on the prior Board discussion about signage – worked with the Street Department, lowered signage to be more visible by cars at the Boat Basin and Boat Ramp parking lots; Council also approved 15mph speed signs at Fabens.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Fabens Park Tennis Courts

Mr. Steinwart stated that re-working the five tennis courts at Fabens is the final piece to be completed in that Master Plan. Existing courts are past their life span; surface repairs are no longer effective. Parks staff met with OHM Engineering firm at Fabens to evaluate. He distributed those cost estimates—as a Joint Rec. District; the discussion needs to happen about funding. The City recreation needs are only for two-three courts (maybe one pickle-ball) for the City and Township; but for Huron Schools, Girls and Boys Tennis Teams, they need five. The question is...how to move forward with cost. Even with savings on the estimates, is there a willingness to split-up the costs? Grants could possibly only cover a small percentage.

Mr. Croucher confirmed that during the last repair (2017) the company told us that the three-court system could no longer be repaired – the cracks are caused by the deteriorated sub-base. 2009 was the last major renovation; but that did not include the sub-base.

MANAGERS' REPORTS

A. Parks

Mr. Steinwart reported: Paddle Shack had issues this year with drainage into the building they lease at Nickel Plate – thank you to the Water Department for installing tiles after the season; our department just paid for materials. Lake Erie Shores & Islands hired a new Sports-Tourism Manager; Brian and I met with him to discuss ways to promote our city and facilities. We are working on Lighthouse-Passport program. Mr. Golling mentioned people staying overnight in Boat Ramp parking lot; asking police to check on this.

A. Recreation

Mr. Croucher reported that we have the annual Pumpkin Fest on October 23th, 11am to 5pm. On Fall Ball, we lost a couple weeks with weather; so we have two weeks to go. It's been a good year, it's very busy, we pull teams from 50 minutes south. Mr. Dike offered comments on Fall Ball rules that distract from picking up extra players; Mr. Croucher invited him to stop by office to discuss. Mr. Dike also mentioned how far teams travel to play at Fabens; and Mr. Steinwart commented on positive economic impact.

B. Boat Basin

Mr. Steinwart stated we are soliciting sponsors for the 2019 concert series. Have also started the budget process for the City.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Golling asked for comments. Ms. Franklin stated that there may be financial help available from Lake Erie Shores & Islands—at the former ConAgra site, if there is something they could put their name on. Mr. Steinwart said that we have talked to them about some “way-finding” signage. She also discussed attending “Loveland Strong” event that could be duplicated here to raise money. Mr. Dike recognized Old Woman’s Creek for their beach clean-up. Mr. Steinwart stated that private school, Lakeridge Academy, also did field trip/science class/ beach clean-up this past week.

OTHER MATTERS – ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the Huron Boat Basin Marina Building. Motion to adjourn by Ms, Franklin, seconded by Ms. Mast; motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Irvin, Administrative Coordinator
Huron Parks & Recreation