

**Huron Joint Recreation District
Regular Board Meeting – Minutes
Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021 at 6:30pm
City Municipal Building, Huron, OH**

Members Present: Tom Solberg, Jen Kilbury, Bryan Edwards, Rene’ Franklin, Jonathan Merckens
Scott Slocum, Julie Spitzley

Present from HPRD/City of Huron: Doug Steinwart, Rick Reinbolt, Dan Weaver

Members Absent: Gordon Hahn

Approval of minutes: Motion to approve Nov. 2, 2021 meeting minutes by Ms. Franklin; motion seconded by Mr. Slocum; approved without change.

Audience comments: None.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Dredging Boat Basin

Doug Steinwart updated the Board: Have done the preliminary survey work – dredging material samples submitted to lab. Have turned-in application to Army Corp of Engineers, and also to ODNR Coastal Management. Next phase is the pre-dredge survey; taking cross samples to estimate volume to be removed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Winter Fest Recap

Mr. Steinwart reported to the Board: Winter Fest was this past Saturday. Had great weather. This is our third year partnering with the Chamber. Had a lot of positive feedback. He thanked the Chamber, referenced the map of events. Recognized the Christmas in Huron Committee for help with decorations, and Grown Huron for updating pots and 508 Main St. display. Most Main St. businesses and the Public Library participated, as well as the Police and Fire Departments. Had positive additions this year, like the Grinch and Captain America for kids, and the “markets” turned out well. It was the first year for the parade, with many local businesses/organizations participating. The Carriage Rides, Santa at the Boat Basin, and Fireworks went really well. We will try to do a small committee, and re-cap with the Chamber, to see what we can add/tweak as we move forward. He also thanked Brian Croucher for spearheading our department’s involvement. Several Board members stated they attended and had positive comments.

B. Parks Projects 2022

Mr. Steinwart reviewed larger projects we are working on for 2022. We are going through budget process; with potential Council approval next week. He began with Lake Front, referencing handout of aerial of Lake Front beach in 2013 vs. 2019. The combination of high water and erosion is evident. Working on three projects at Lake Front -1) Re-stack existing sandstone seawall, 2) Protect east side, erosion close to grass area; adding armor stone to protect infrastructure, and 3) Smaller stone between grass and sand has been displaced on west side. It needs to be re-built and topped with larger “A-stone.” We have two quotes and are awaiting a third. Would like to start it as soon as we can get a contractor scheduled.

Next handout was an aerial of the “Pier Beach.” We are not planning a project there, but it is interesting how mother nature is creating a nice beach, where it was “peat based” for years. We now have it groomed and it attracts visitors. It does show that some of the sand from Lake Front “shifted over.”

Additional 2022 project will be at Nickel Plate Beach; we are at the end of the life cycle of the playground structure there. So, we plan to replace with new structure. Because it is on a sand surface –

we don't have to install the ADA wood fibers. We are considering listing the existing play system on gov.deals –removal would be a cost savings to us, and hopefully go to an organization that could use it. At the Boat Basin, the 2001 building is showing some age, with some needed repairs. He referenced the hand-out, to show the retaining wall on the river side that needs replaced. It is a uni-lock system. Working with our engineers on that project. In addition, the building is a 20-year-old wood structure exposed to the elements. We are working on getting it repainted and re-roofed. Those are some of our larger projects we are starting on now. Board suggestion for Nickel Plate -- ship designed playground at putt-putt in Vermilion.

Also included photo of initial ice rink installation at Fabens Park, as hand-out. We need minimum of three days of freezing, day and night, for fill. Working with Fire Dept. to fill. In response to question about size—the kit we purchased was 100 x 60'. Installed on our site it is about 100 x 55'. He thanked Rick and Dan for installation. Mr. Merckens shared that Marblehead had one years ago; had trouble with kids breaking liner when not frozen. Our police will be doing extra patrols. Mr. Edwards suggested selling fence space for banners – funds could be used for additional supplies. Mr. Steinwart will check the grant-giver stipulations. Suggestion of benches on both sides; potential lockers for shoes.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Solberg asked for input: Ms. Kilbury said she was impressed with attendance at Winter Fest, and pleased Grow Huron could participate – she thanked Grow Huron sponsors and the Parks Dept. Mr. Slocum said the “buzz” of people walking through town during Winter Fest was great; he also said it was an honor to be part of the Board. Ms. Franklin stated she would volunteer to be a part of the Winter Fest committee; she also commented about restroom locations being added to Winter Fest map. Ms. Spitzley said she was excited about Ice Rink. Mr. Reinbolt thanked Grow Huron for decorations, and the 508 Main St. corner improvement. Mr. Steinwart thanked Mr. Slocum for his service. Mr. Edwards expressed thanks for how good properties look, and looking forward to Ice Rink. Mr. Merckens said his family attended Winter Fest and he heard good things.

OTHER MATTERS – ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Spitzley; second by Mr. Merckens.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Irvin, Administrative Coordinator
Huron Parks & Recreation