

**Huron Joint Recreation District
Regular Board Meeting – Minutes
Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 6:30pm
City Municipal Building, Huron, OH**

Members Present: Tom Solberg, Bryan Edwards, Rene’ Franklin, Matt Grieves, Jen Kilbury, Elizabeth Laffay, Jonathan Merckens

Present from HPRD: Doug Steinwart, Brian Croucher, Rick Reinbolt, Dan Weaver

Present from City of Huron: Stuart Hamilton, Jeff Hall

Members Absent: Gordon Hahn, Julie Spitzley

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve March 1, 2022 minutes as presented; by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Merckens. Approved unanimously.

Audience Comments: Mr. Steinwart introduced two new City of Huron staff members in the audience: Mr. Stuart Hamilton is our new Service Director, and Mr. Jeff Hall is our new Finance Director. Mr. Steinwart thanked them for attending.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Fish Cleaning Station Bids

Mr. Steinwart provided a bid update: Since last meeting’s bid opening discussion, we met with ODNR. They are in favor of adding the “alternate #1” addition (“make-ready space/paving”) to the project. Our plan is to go before City Council next Tuesday, to award the bid to Northstar Contracting in Cleveland. We also worked through details of the “grease processor interceptor” and are ready to move forward on the project.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Program Guide 2022

Mr. Croucher referenced the Program Guide distributed to Board members. The guide will be distributed to families through the schools this week; program and registration information is also available online. The first few pages of the guide are devoted to our programs, but we also include Boat Basin events. These are important tools that prompt registration, as note we already have over 40 kids signed up for Safety Town. This weekend is our Breakfast with Bunny and Egg Hunt event. The breakfast portion is held at the First Presbyterian Church with the Lions Club; they are asking for cash donations. The Egg Hunt portion of the event will be held at the Boat Basin; we will be accepting donated canned goods (for the Huron Food Pantry). Our next event is the City Wide Clean-Up. We are expecting help from the High School National Honor Society. Thanks to Huron Lagoons/Holiday Harbor for providing donuts and to the Erie County Solid Waste “Green Bean” trailer for the clean-up supplies.

Mr. Steinwart pointed out that both the City Wide Clean-Up, and the City Wide Garage Sale, spurs involvement from neighborhoods, and it’s exciting for us to see the community support. Mr. Croucher mentioned the Fabens Park Advertising banner program; after a lull in 2020, we are excited about the support for the program in 2021 and now in 2022. Again, this year we are offering both a one-year and a two-year renewal option.

Mr. Croucher also distributed copies of a proposed sign for the ball fields at Fabens Park. Mrs. Lynn Kedas, a Huron resident, would like to donate a total of nine signs, one for each field to honor her son. Mr. Steinwart said the department is absolutely for this. A sample is presented to you for consideration; we encourage you to contact us for further discussion, thoughts and questions. It is important message, and important to recognize the family. In response to a “policy question”, Mr. Steinwart explained a reasonable time-duration policy is being considered.

B. Misc. Parks & Recreation

The Huron Baseball and Softball program has agreed to partner with the HPRD to replace one of the batting cages at Fabens Park. Seasonal maintenance such as installation of the Boat Ramp docks, turning on the electricity on the docks at the Boat Basin, and opening up the public restrooms at the Boat Ramp, Fabens and Lake Front Park have been taking place this week and will continue next week. The slide at Lake Front Park is in need of repair, parts have been ordered and will be installed upon receipt. We utilized the water bill this month as a vehicle to send the Boat Basin schedule of events as well as a flyer promoting the Egg Hunt and part-time seasonal employment opportunities (Gate attendants for NPB, Dock Hands at the HBB and Parks Maintenance people). The city and the township are moving forward with their portion of the HJRD agreement. The schools are working on theirs with the hopes of solidifying it by the end of May.

It's the end of an era for HPRD, after 10 years of service, Patricia has decided to be on her way. Her dedication and commitment to the department has been exemplary and has helped to define the position as to where it needs to be today. She is going to be greatly missed!

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Solberg thanked everyone for attending and congratulated Patricia on her decision. Mr. Edwards commented on how he is pleased to see "things getting back to normal" and thanked Patricia for her time. He also noted seeing the Parks trucks out in the community is a sign work is getting done. Mr. Merckens inquired on the status of the Anchor Memorial. Mr. Steinwart responded with the project is moving forward financially with an anticipated start date of late Aug. or early Sept. Next meeting is scheduled May 3rd, 2022.

OTHER MATTERS – ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Laffay; second by Mrs. Franklin

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Irvin, Administrative Coordinator
Huron Parks & Recreation