

City of Montgomery
Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes
December 10, 2018

Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager
Terry Willenbrink, Asst. Public Works Director
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council

Committee Members Present

Lynda Roesch
Gerri Harbison
Mike Cappel

Guests and Residents

Brian Middleton-Sycamore Premiere
Sean Deschene
Dave Diersing-GSSA
Phyllis Tenenholtz
Steve Silverman

The Parks and Recreation Committee of Council convened in Council Chambers at 3:30 p.m. with Ms. Roesch presiding.

Old Business

Discussion of City Owned Athletic Fields

Ms. Roesch thanked everyone who was in attendance regarding the continued discussion of the use of the City owned soccer fields. She stated that the City appreciated all the leagues do for the families in the community and the coordination of the soccer programs. She thanked the GSSA for their partnership over the years with the City in the use of the parks and fields but stated that since the land is public that there are restrictions to how it is to be handled when requested by the community. She stated that in response to a request by the Sycamore Premiere SC for field space and since no compromise was reached by the two organizations, that staff has created maps identifying all fields, their sizes and proximities to other fields, such as baseball fields and made assignments to both organizations in an effort to make it as convenient as possible. She stated that the details of the map and assignments were emailed to both organizations and maps were also available for viewing at the meeting. Ms. Roesch stated that the assignments were made in an effort to be equitable to all parties and not to punish anyone.

The Committee and the organizations discussed the assignments and the coordination with the baseball association as well.

After all discussions, GSSA, Sycamore Premiere, staff and the Committee agreed that Sycamore Premiere would have the use of all the fields at Swaim Park as well as Field 2 at Weller Park.

Mr. Willenbrink stated that he would work on the field layout at Swaim Park for the spring and fall seasons of 2019.

Ms. Roesch restated the agreement between the two organizations and reminded them that if they were to come to a park in which a family is using a field that they do not have precedence over the fields that they do not pay for them and they are public.

Mr. Willenbrink stated to Mr. Middleton that Sycamore Premiere would need to purchase goal posts. Mr. Middleton acknowledged that they would be looking to purchase their own.

Mrs. Harbison stated that she is glad that they were able to work this out, but that this could have been avoided if they were willing to compromise several months ago. She encouraged them to continue to work together moving forward.

Mr. Cappel made a motion to support the agreement to provide Sycamore Premiere SC with the use of Swaim Park soccer fields and Field #2 at Weller Park for the 2019 spring and fall season. Mrs. Harbison seconded. The Committee unanimously agreed.

Mrs. Harbison welcomed long-term resident Phyllis Tenenholtz of 10457 Adventure Lane in the audience.

Mrs. Tenenholtz stated she was there to hear the discussion regarding the use of the fields as her children, now adults, were very active in the soccer programs. She stated that she did not support organizations whose players were not residents and charged fees to join.

Mrs. Harbison explained the history of the request and that both organizations had residents on both teams and coaches that participated in both organizations. She stated that neither organizations pay for the use of fields.

Update on Recommended Re-Appointments to the Arts and Sister Cities Commissions

Ms. Roesch stated that according to the correspondence presented by DeAnna Gross, Volunteer Coordinator that the following Boards and Commission members were seeking reappointment for another term and the Committee would need to pass a motion to continue their terms through January 31, 2022.

Helen Grimes, Beautification and Tree Commission
Cindy Diehl, Parks and Recreation Commission

Mr. Cappel made a motion to reappoint all the stated members to their respective Commissions for terms to expire on January 31, 2022. Mrs. Harbison seconded. The Committee unanimously approved.

Minutes

Mrs. Harbison moved to approve the November 12, 2018 Committee minutes. Mr. Cappel seconded. The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

Adjournment

Mr. Cappel moved for adjournment. Mrs. Harbison seconded. The Committee unanimously agreed.

The Parks and Recreation Committee of Council meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.



Acting Chair