

June 11, 2021

TO: City Council Member Lynda Roesch, Chair  
Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council

FROM: Brian K. Riblet, City Manager *BKR*

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting on Monday, June 14, 2021

As a reminder, the Parks and Recreation Committee is scheduled to meet on Monday, June 14, 2021, at 3:30 p.m. at City Hall as a hybrid meeting both at City Hall and via teleconference. To participate in this meeting by teleconference please use the following phone number: 1 (866) 228-9900 with Passcode: 204938. Those items to be discussed include:

1. Beautification and Tree Commission Interviews—It is anticipated that the Committee will go into Executive Session to interview the following applicants to fill a vacancy on the Beautification and Tree Commission:
  - a. John DeVore-3:30 p.m.
  - b. Travis Everly-3:50 p.m.
2. Update of Summer Events—Staff will be present to update the Committee on current and upcoming events.
3. Other Business—The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an opportunity to discuss any issue or ask questions that may be on your mind.

Also attached are the minutes from the October 12, 2020 meeting of your Committee for review and approval at Monday's meeting.

Should you have any questions or concerns pertaining to these topics or have additional items to be discussed at the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact me.

c: Mayor and City Council Members (3)  
Connie Gaylor, Administrative Coordinator  
Department Heads  
File

**AGENDA**

June 14, 2021

3:30 P.M.

The meeting will be offered both in place at City Hall and by teleconference for those who cannot attend in person or feel safer sheltering at home. To participate in this meeting by teleconference please use the following phone number: 1-866-228-9900 with a passcode of 204938.

1. Call to Order
2. Guests and Residents
3. Old Business
4. New Business
  - a. Beautification and Tree Commission Interviews
  - b. Update of Summer Events
5. Approval of Minutes – October 12, 2020
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

*These Minutes are a draft of the proposed minutes from the Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council meeting. They do not represent the official record of proceedings until formally adopted by the Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council. Formal adoption is noted by signature of the Chair within the minutes.*

City of Montgomery  
Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes  
October 12, 2020

Present

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

Committee Members Present

Lynda, Roesch, Chair, tele.  
Gerri Harbison  
Mike Cappel, teleconference

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The Parks and Recreation Committee of Council convened its meeting for October 12, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. in person and by telephone conference with Ms. Roesch presiding. This remote access meeting was allowed by emergency legislation adopted last week by the Ohio General Assembly and approved by the Governor. The emergency legislation added language to RC Section 121.22 allowing public meetings by telephone conference during the current pandemic and declared State of Emergency. As required by the statute, notice of the telephonic meeting was publicized more than 24 hours in advance to allow public access through the same conference call in service. The public was also given a backup number to call in the event there were technical difficulties. This Notice was posted on the City's website and a similar Notice was sent to The Cincinnati Enquirer.

Update of 2020 Pool Season

Ms. Machon updated the Committee on the 2020 pool season. She explained that due to COVID-19 the season was very different with a shortened season lasting from June 15 to September 7. She stated that while we were only open for 12 weeks, only 31% of the pools surveyed by the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association stated that they opened, and we were one of the few in the area. She stated that there were no memberships sold and only daily admission time blocks were offered to residents who signed up online in advance. She stated that the pool operated at 53% capacity with 10,109 check-ins. The pool fund seen \$89,930 in revenue and \$202,870 in expenses.

Ms. Machon added that the Swim Team did have a 6-week program with 97 swimmers who practiced two days a week and ended the season with an intrasquad meet.

Ms. Machon stated that before COVID changed the format of the season, pool projects that were completed were as follows:

- Deep end of the pool was painted
- Bathrooms: sinks, hand dryers, and soap dispensers were all replaced
- Gutters around bath house were replaced
- A/C unit in pool concession was installed

Ms. Roesch stated that the Park Commission felt the format of the season worked well.

Mr. Cappel said he thought it was a great job by all and was happy we were able to open.



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## Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council Minutes

October 12, 2020

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Mr. Riblet stated that even though expenses were higher, it is hard to put a price tag on what it meant to the community. He stated that opening the pool actually helps with maintenance issues versus not opening.

Mr. Cappel stated that other cities the never opened sent a negative message to their residents.

Mr. Riblet stated that he knew other communities were under fire to not open at all.

Mrs. Harbison stated that she felt the monetary loss is overshadowed by the goodwill that was shown to the community. She stated that she fully supported the opening of the award. She stated that the Chamber of Commerce would be accepting applications for their "Pivot Award" that is just for this type of a circumstance where a business showed creativity in how they offered their services in the midst of the pandemic.

### Recap of City Events

Ms. Machon provided the following update of City Events since the pandemic caused the State of Emergency in Ohio:

#### Events

- Drive In, June 19, 73 attended, Movie: Sonic the Hedgehog
- BAMSO, virtual, July 3, 382 views
- July 4 Reverse Parade, 1,000 cars, 55 parade units
- Bastille Day, week of activities including 2 cooking demos 103 views, Chalk your Walk contest, virtual concert with French artist, virtual beginner French class with Alliance Francaise, Eiffel Tower Contest
- Movie in the Park, August 7, 131 attended, Movie: Playing with Fire
- Dogfest, September 7, 185 people and 134 dogs attended, dog swim only
- Outdoor Concert, September 26, 244 attended, The Mistics
- Movie in the Park, October 2, 109 attended, Movie: Abominable

#### Annex Fitness Programs

- Session A - Occurred as normal - 8 weeks of classes, 164 participants
- Session B - 1 week of classes only due to COVID, 148 participants
- All Fitness Programs cancelled March 16 - June 21
- Session C - Classes resumed with COVID restrictions and at less than 50% building capacity on June 22, 61 participants
- Session D - Classes running with COVID restrictions and at less than 50% building capacity, 74 participants
- Session E - Begins late October through end of the year - classes running with COVID restrictions and at less than 50 % building capacity, 58 currently registered with registration still open

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### Recreation

- Independence Day Coloring Contest, 33 Entries
- Chalk Your Walk, July, 67 Entries
- Recreation to Go Program, Summer, 116 Kits sold, packed, and distributed.
- Summer Camps, June/July, COVID Restrictions in place - 6 weeks of camp, 71 participants
- Summer and Fall Golf, June/July 7 participants, Sept/Oct 9 participants, Partnered with Great Parks of Hamilton County - Both sessions reached capacity set by Great Parks
- Fitness in the Park, Sept/Oct, 43 participants

### Arts

- Shakespeare in the Park Sat Aug 29, 270 people, live theater!
- Upcoming Live at the Uni, Oct 26, Nov 9

### Current / Upcoming

- Halloween Haunted Trail
- Halloween Coloring Contest
- The Great Montgomery Pumpkin Contest
- Kids Tree and Nature Walk Program presented by Terry Willenbrink and Sarah Fink
- Youth Paintball Trip
- Recreation to Go Program, Fall
- Winter Coloring Contest
- Tree Lighting
- Activity with Santa

Mrs. Harbison asked if the Pancake Breakfast or Breakfast with Santa was being held.

Mr. Riblet stated that it is being discussed but more than likely it will not be due to attendance and holding it at Terwilliger's Lodge. He explained that ultimately it needs to be shifted from Terwilliger Lodge due to the large attendance. He stated that it would be a perfect activity to move to Twin Lakes as the residents would love the interaction with the families and the facility is larger and has the food service on the grounds. He stated that discussions were on hold right now due to the pandemic.

Mr. Cappel stated that it was fun to watch the innovation that staff is showing to continue to hold events in a unique way for the community.

Ms. Roesch stated that staff is amazing to put programs together especially compared to other cities.

Mrs. Harbison added that it is done with enthusiasm and excitement and not treated as a burden.



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## **Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council Minutes**

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Mr. Riblet acknowledged and thanked Sycamore Schools for allowing the City to use their parking lot for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Reverse Parade. He added that while attending the Mistics Outdoor Concert that was held that a lady shared how thankful she was that there was an opportunity to attend an outdoor event with her disabled son. She stated that the pandemic has been very hard on him and being able to enjoy an outdoor activity was so appreciated.

### **Minutes**

Mr. Cappel moved to approve the June 8, 2020 Committee minutes. Mrs. Harbison seconded. The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

### **Other Business**

Ms. Roesch shared that at the last Parks Commission meeting they discussed that members of the Pickleball group asked for courts to be designated permanently for pickleball. She stated that the majority of Parks Commission members wanted them to remain designated for both tennis and pickleball. She explained this is because they did not want to change the nets each time they wanted to play.

Mr. Cappel stated that he supported leaving the courts marked for multiuse.

Ms. Roesch stated that the Parks Commission agreed with the multiuse as well.

Mr. Riblet asked if it has been a problem.

Ms. Roesch replied that it had not and that it stems from the growing popularity of the sport.

Mrs. Harbison asked what the prediction is of the future of pickleball.

Ms. Machon replied that she did not see it going away.

Mrs. Harbison asked if there was any additional Other Business to discuss. There being none, she asked for a motion to adjourn.

### **Adjournment**

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

The Parks and Recreation Committee of Council meeting was adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

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Chair