

WHITEHALL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

June 16, 2021

Lamby Lane Park

The meeting of the Whitehall Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:10 PM by John Feters.

On a roll call, in attendance: Mike Adkins, Chris Bolich, Feters, Mike McQuate, Katie Quincel, Nathaniel Stewart, Director Shannon Sorrell, and Shannon Werner. Absent: Geral Leka. Guests: Councilman Wes Kantor and Elizabeth Saunders.

Bolich moved, seconded by Quincel, to excuse the absent member and the motion carried 6 – 0.

There were no guests to poll for questions or comments.

Bolich moved, seconded by Quincel, to approve the meeting minutes for May 12, 2021 and the motion carried 6 – 0.

The Commission reviewed the following items: Invoices, budget, and income for May 2021.

Director's Report:

Summer is in full swing and it is very busy. Seasonal staffing has been especially challenge this year.

Sorrell introduced the department's new Active Living Coordinator, Elizabeth Saunders.

Softball tournaments continue to be a challenge, too. Staff and several commissioners met with the tournament organizer and WYAA to re-establish roles and responsibilities. The last 2 tournaments have been cancelled.

Sorrell reviewed the summer calendar of programs and events. This included Market on the Green, Fitness on the Green, Movies on the Green, summer sports camps, Splashpad, Music in the Park, and outdoor movies.

Capital project updates: The dog park is under construction and it is moving along smoothly. Trail paving at Whitehall Community Park is scheduled for the summer. The "porta-john hut" continues to be a problem and we are exploring alternative ways to install the structure to minimize tree loss.

The Parks and Recreation department has been hosting workers from the PD's juvenile diversion program and it is going very well. We have been speaking with Job and Family Services and the Columbus Urban League exploring ways to support their youth work program. Staff also had an introductory meeting with BGCCO to discuss partnership opportunities and youth development.

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MORPC and Franklin County have teamed up to submit a \$25M grant proposal to build out Central Ohio Greenways – and this includes Whitehall’s portion. The Eastmoor Greenline (a Columbus Rec. and Parks project) is also getting closer to fruition.

Bolich said that he would like to get youth sports on the agenda very soon so that meaningful progress can be made.

There being no further business, Bolich moved, seconded by Adkins, and the meeting adjourned at 6:49pm.

To the best of my knowledge, these minutes are true and correct.

Chairman John Feters

Prepared by:

Shannon Werner