



MASSILLON RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES January 11, 2023

The Massillon Recreation Board met in regular session on January 11, 2023 at 5:07 p.m.

Acceptance of Jan 11, 2023 Meeting Agenda:

23-07 *Mr. Rickett moved; seconded by Mr. Schartiger to approve the Jan 11, 2023 meeting agenda. Motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.*

December 29, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes:

23-08 *Mr. Rickett moved; seconded by Mr. Harding to approve the December 29, 2022 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.*

Public Comments: None

Expense Report:

23-09 *Mr. Hickey moved; seconded by Mr. Rickett to approve the December 2022 Parks and Recreation Expense report totaling \$199,519.98. Motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.*

23-10 *Mr. Schartiger moved; seconded by Mr. Rickett to approve the December 2022 Legends Golf Course Expense report totaling \$71,799.37. Motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.*

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Harding: I have a question. This is just for a question sake. I know we've had this come up before I'm just going to bring it up again. I know that each month with the minutes, we get a verbatim copy, etc. Again, I don't think we need to do all that but I know some board members differ on that opinion. I just think to bring it up as a point of discussion, if it goes anywhere, fine if not, it's just something to discuss. Whether we actually have to do that or word by word verbatim or whether or not we can simply do it, the way Robert Rules has it just with a paragraph form. Hearing everybody jumping in at one time...

Mr. Rickett: I think it should stay the way it is. Me and Dave differ so you guys chime right in.

Mr. Hickey: I don't think we have that much discussion most of the time anyway. There's only four pages.

Mr. Hickey: I would have to agree on keeping it the way it is.

Mr. Harding: Okay,

Mr. Hickey: You guys just want to

Mr. Harding: Without having no motion it was just a point of discussion, it's fine. Okay, we'll move on then.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New Hires (Attachment)

Steve Pedro: It was brought to my attention last month and I kind of nixed it, and that was my fault. We had not approved, (you'll notice Carol Leonard on here) at the time. I don't know if it was because the meeting got cancelled or what I did wrong but that is why she is added to this; with the others.

23-11 Mr. Hickey moved; seconded by Mr. Schartiger to approve the new hires. Motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

2. Replace Rec Center Camera System, not to exceed \$49,000

23-12 Mr. Hickey moved; seconded by Mr. Schartiger to approve to replace Rec Center camera system, not to exceed \$49,000.00. Motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

Mr. Harding: Discussion, Steve

Steve Pedro: Our system is flawed terribly. We are not able to record all the time. Sometimes it does, sometimes it doesn't. We had it fixed a couple times since I've been here...we've had some fixes. I had an evaluation done by two companies so far and I have another one coming in, hopefully by next Monday or Tuesday to give us a final price. We have one below the threshold and one above so I think we are in a good place with those but I'd like to get one more estimate.

3. Story Walk, in collaboration with Massillon Public Library, at Community Park

Mr. Harding: Steve, does this need a motion.

Steve Pedro: Yes

23-13 Mr. Hickey moved; seconded by Mr. Schartiger to add a Story Walk, in collaboration with Massillon Public Library, at Community Park. Motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

Mr. Harding: Steve

Steve Pedro: I think I briefly spoke about this after last meeting to a couple of you. The library has received some funding to do a story walk and asked if we could do it in one of our parks. Went through Community Park. There is a trail behind the ballfield. We will do it back there and come back up to the pavilion. This just needs to be approved so she can forward that.

Mr. Harding: Is this like what they do down at the Wilderness Center?

Steve Pedro: Similar. Every so often there is a plaque of some sort of stand with a story on it. I don't know what the story is going to entail yet but I think it will be a nice addition down there.

4. Lawndale Park proposal (Handout)

Mr. Harding: This being a handout, at this juncture, this is informational

Steve Pedro: I passed out this park proposal that I received. I met with six or seven people and councilwoman Smith also talked to them over the last month or so and brought this to me. They'd like to do some different things at the park. These are just some ideas, not necessarily everything. It could go one way or the other. The basketball court is already going to be resurfaced this year as part of our Park and Rec program along with the hoops up there that need replaced. It was also brought to our attention when you go to a lot of our parks, they are really not handicap accessible so we need some sidewalks up there. They are willing to raise some funds and at the next meeting I will have the entire proposal in detail for you or forward it to you so we can decide if we want to let them raise some money. They are willing to raise some money to do this. You can see in here that they put down a price of about \$30,000 for everything. I don't think it is going to be that much. They seem to have some people that are interested in this so I will bring this forward next meeting so if you can look this over. If you have any questions in the meantime, please let me know. Again, this is not final, these are just some ideas that they had.

Mr. Rickett: I just have a question.

Mr. Harding: Yeah Moe

Mr. Rickett: What is a Gaga Ball Pit?

Steve Pedro: Look on the fifth or sixth page. There are a bunch of different styles of it. Here it is Moe.

Mr. Rickett: I thought maybe it was named after Lady Gaga

Steve Pedro: No

Mr. Rickett: Is she coming?

Steve Pedro: No

Steve Pedro: Again, these are just ideas they had. We are going to talk again and see exactly what they want to do with the funding, if they want to donate and we would obviously have some skin in the game as well.

Mr. Hickey: Now Julie, this is your Board, right?

Julie Harwig-Smith: Yes

Mr. Hickey: Do you have any comments on this?

Julie Harwig-Smith: I think it is wonderful and that they are doing this in memory of Jacob?

Steve Pedro: Yes, Jacob

Julie Harwig-Smith: He played there as a child and his family spent a lot of time there growing up. They just have some ideas to revamp the park, like putting up the wall thing that you can hit things off of and things like that. It's a really nice thing they want to do.

Mr. Hickey: So, it's very positive

Julie Harwig-Smith: Yes, very positive

Steve Pedro: After I met with them, I looked up some of these things and the maintenance of them...I mean you'll have to repaint the wall, the Gaga pit, depending on what material you use. You can use plastic that goes surrounds the playgrounds now, you can use wood, you can do anything to border it. I really believe a lot of this is really low maintenance, cost wise. Like I said, I'm going to meet with them again and I know Julie is going to be included in that to see exactly which way we are going to go with it or where they'd like to go. I'm going to bring this to the next meeting with more details for you then.

Mr. Hickey: Let me ask you this, are we chipping in for this?

Steve Pedro: I'd like to. I think we should. As you can see on there, their price is \$30,000, asking us to chip in \$10,000. I think we are in a good place.

Mr. Hickey: I don't think \$10,000 is a whole lot.

Steve Pedro: No. No. After looking at that and looking at some pricing, I think it's going to be less than that for what they want to do. And, it can be done in phases, if they want to, depending on how much money they raise, we can say we want to get this done and at the end of the year or next spring continue with something else, depending on the funding.

Mr. Hickey: Moe, do you know that is your councilperson?

Mr. Rickett: Oh yeah

Mr. Harding: Thank you Steve

Steve Pedro: You're welcome

5. Pepsi sponsorship agreement for Rec Center and Legends

23-14 *Mr. Hickey moved; seconded by Mr. Schartiger to approve the Pepsi sponsorship agreement for Rec Center and Legends. Motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.*

Mr. Harding: Steve

Steve Pedro: We have been with Pepsi the last five years. We asked for another proposal and did not receive anything from another company so we would like to continue our relationship with them. Instead of \$10,000, they are going to give us \$11,250 over the next five years.

Mr. Hickey: Where does that \$11,000 go?

Steve Pedro: That (sponsorships) goes into the other revenue line and we will use it as needed if anything should need done. If we need that. They also give discounts to the golf course on purchases and they do our vending machines as well. They are upping the cost on the vending machines but they are still less than the gas station. That's the important thing.

6. Duncan Plaza agreement (Attachment)

23-15 Mr. Hickey moved; seconded by Mr. Schartiger to approve the Duncan Plaza agreement.

Mr. Harding: Discussion, Steve

Steve Pedro: As I stated, I sent everybody this. It's up to you if we want to finalize this. If there is more to talk about, I'll be glad to do that with the Law Department.

Mr. Hickey: You know, I do have some questions. Just on the bottom where it says Article I Authority and Term. Where it says limited maintenance activities therein. What do you mean by limited maintenance activity? You follow what I'm saying?

Steve Pedro: Let me find it. I've got Grant of Authority. The Board hereby engages..

Mr. Hickey: It's Grant of Authority. The Board hereby engages and authorizes the City...it's this part right here that says certain limited maintenance activities therein. Here is where I am confused. I would just spell out what our activity is. You follow what I am saying?

Steve Pedro: Yeah

Mr. Hickey: Is it limited activity on dollar amount, is it on hours worked? I would just spell it out what we are going to do.

Steve Pedro: Okay

Mr. Hickey: Does that sound good.

Steve Pedro: I just don't see where you are talking about (Steve walked over to Mr. Hickey to locate the information he is referring to).

Mr. Hickey: Here, this is what you sent me. Limited maintenance activities therein.

Steve Pedro: Is that the one in the...here, look at this one

Mr. Hickey: The one you sent me is no good anymore?

Steve Pedro: No. That one is garbage. This is the final.

Mr. Hickey: Okay.

Steve Pedro: I'm sorry

Mr. Hickey: So, what changed on this one?

Steve Pedro: It says the same thing

Mr. Hickey: Certain limited maintenance activities therein

Steve Pedro: So, we want to spell that out

Mr. Hickey: Yes, yes. I don't know what that means. Also, on the old one here where it says, WHEREAS, by written legal opinion dated December 9, 2019. Okay, it says here, Ohio has advised that Duncan Plaza is a park under the (on the old one here) Massillon Parks and Recreation Department. There is no department. Okay? We are not a department. It should be under the...you can say the Massillon Parks and Recreation Board. But the department was dissolved in January 1996. Am I correct, Moe?

Mr. Rickett: Yeah

Mr. Hickey: So, there is no department. We are not a department.

Steve Pedro: What paragraph is that in, Mr. Hickey?

Mr. Hickey: That's uh, 1, 2, 3...third paragraph

Steve Pedro: I got it

Mr. Hickey: And it should say also under there, when you say that, it should say that, when you put it in there under the Recreation Board, under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Board that operates the park and recreation for the City of Massillon. That's what I would say.

Mr. Hickey: I'll repeat that again, it should say Recreation Board, under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Board that operates the park and recreation for the City of Massillon. That's how I would word that. There's no department, or no department whatsoever anymore.

Mr. Hickey: Now, we go down to the fifth paragraph. I don't have a problem with you guys keep repeating this one here. It says WHEREAS, in accordance with R.C. §§ 735.02 and 735.04, the Director of Public Service and Safety of the City is responsible for the oversight and operation of the City's public grounds and directs the maintenance of such grounds. I don't have any problems with the direction but if this is a park, it should say subject to the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Board.

Steve Pedro: On the end of that?

Mr. Hickey: I would, the part about, listen, nobody is going to interfere. I would just put, since you keep repeating in here that it is a park, and I don't have a problem with it

Steve Pedro: I don't keep repeating it, this is from the Law Department.

Mr. Hickey: Okay. They keep repeating that. Any park is under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Board. Period. That's just the way it is. That is the correct legal term. Now if anyone wants to disagree with me, that's fine.

Steve Pedro: He cited the Ohio Revised Code

Mr. Hickey: Yeah, yeah. Well, The Ohio Revised Code does not say the Director of Public Service and Safety is responsible for the parks. It's under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Board.

Steve Pedro: I agree with you but I'm going to look that up to see what it says. I just don't know what the § 735.02 says. I'm just thinking that's where he got it from...I'm assuming.

Mr. Hickey: I want to get rid of this faster than anyone on this board. I just want this to be right. So, I can give you my copy here. There's no department and where it says...I'll go over this with you.

Steve Pedro: I'll make a copy before you leave.

Mr. Hickey: Yeah

Steve Pedro: And we are being recorded so...we are good

Mr. Hickey: And with the limited maintenance, let's spell out what are duties are

Steve Pedro: Okay

Mr. Hickey: I mean, the reason I say that, where it says limited maintenance activities there within. We haven't spelled out what our activities are.

Steve Pedro: How about in Article 2, the Maintenance?

Mr. Hickey: Article 2. Wait a minute, I better look at this thing. I can live with that.

Steve Pedro: Would that cover what you were talking about on the first page, then?

Mr. Hickey: I don't know why we need both.

Steve Pedro: I think here where it says limited maintenance duties, in my opinion, since it is spelled out in Article 2, could we leave that?

Mr. Hickey: Yeah, I like that.

Steve Pedro: Then we are good with the limited maintenance activities. Leave Article 1 and Article 2 go but up top here, we need to make some changes. Do we all agree on that? Okay. So, there is no vote to approve this.

Mr. Harding: Table it until the next meeting.

Steve Pedro: Okay.

Mr. Hickey: Yeah

Steve Pedro: And I will make a copy of that before you leave

Mr. Hickey: Sure

Mr. Hickey: I mean, I don't know if they realize, the Law Department, that this is not a department. Okay, at one time, there was a Rec Board and there was a Park Board.

Steve Pedro: I know

Mr. Hickey: Okay, you are familiar. Those were dissolved when they passed this income tax. So now it is called a Recreation Board. It's not a Department Board. I just want to be sure we have it right. Now, I don't know much, but that I do know.

Mr. Harding: Thank you Mark.

Steve Pedro: So that will be tabled until the next meeting?

Mr. Harding: Yes, it is tabled until the next meeting.

Steve Pedro: And in the meantime, I'm going to get your copy and I will make changes and send them to you in an email. Please look at them or if you need me to deliver them, I will bring them to you. I'm serious, I don't have a problem with that. My printer doesn't work sometimes but, I'll be glad to drop them off.

Mr. Harding: Okay now on to the Board reports starting with Joe Pape.

Mr. Hickey: Oh, I'm sorry. I've got one more thing on that draft. On the old one, I'm just kind of curios here, if you look here on the last page, where it says with a copy to the Director of Law. Shouldn't that be Law Director?

Steve Pedro: They made this.

Mr. Hickey: No, I mean, I'm not sure. On the last page here where it says with a copy to the Director of Law, 2 James Duncan Plaza, Massillon, Ohio 44646, wouldn't that be Law Director? Isn't that the proper term? Or is it me?

Mr. Rickett: It's you (laughter)

Mr. Hickey: Well that's fine

Steve Pedro: With that being said, should it be President and Vice-President or Chair and Co-Chair? Because it has been two different ways the past 25 years. I can tell you that. Does it matter?

Mr. Hickey: I would say President and Vice-President. Wouldn't you say that?

Steve Pedro: I've seen both...in OUR minutes.

Mr. Hickey: I would say President and Vice-President. That's what I would say. Co-chair means they are sharing the same duties. There is only one guy running the meeting and that is Dave Harding.

Steve Pedro: (laughter) I shouldn't have even brought that up.

Mr. Harding: Steve, we'd like to thank you for your input. Joe, back to you.

Tabled until the next Parks and Recreation Board meeting, Wednesday, February 15, 2023

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm. The next scheduled regular meeting will be on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 5:00 pm at the Massillon Recreation Center.