

Kent Parks and Recreation
October 6, 2016 6pm
Kent Parks & Recreation Office

Members Present:

Peter Orlando
Jack Neuzil
Kim Ball
Debbie Smeiles

Staff Present:

John Idone
Sam Tuttle
Karen Magilavy
Megan Johns
Nancy Pizzino

Council Liaison

Melissa Long

The meeting was called to order and roll was noted, Kelley is unable to attend. There are no corrections for August's minutes. **Debbie moves to approve the minutes for August and Kim seconds, there is no more discussion and the motion passed unanimously.**

Personal Appearance

Nancy Nozic of Brandstetter Carroll Inc. is at today's board meeting to go over the draft of the Kent Health and Wellness Concept Plan. Brandstetter Carroll will attend with staff the City Council meeting on October 19 to discuss land acquisition in executive session; an RFP is being developed to formally solicit partnerships with area health providers. The process included learning; what are the community needs, what should be included, how much will it cost, where will it go, and how will it be funded. They gathered this information with online surveys, meeting with a variety of groups and P&R surveys at community events. Brandstetter Carroll and staff also visited recreation centers at Twinsburg, Cuyahoga Falls & Tallmadge and case studies of these facilities are included in the report. The executive summary was reviewed with the board as follows.

It is needed? Community input was gathered through surveys and a series of stakeholder meetings. This input, along with a review of current program offerings, confirmed that there is a need for an indoor comprehensive center in the City of Kent to support senior, athletic, fitness, meeting, wellness, and community functions. The desire is to create a place for the whole community, for citizens of all ages, that is affordable.

What is included? The proposed space program is divided into two phases. The first phase is approximately 90,000 sf and includes gymnasium spaces, an indoor turf field, walking track, fitness equipment areas, fitness classrooms, senior and community rooms, locker rooms, a central gathering area, administrative offices, and an allowance for up to 5,000 sf for a health partner to occupy. A second phase may include additional gymnasium space as well as an indoor or outdoor swimming facility.

How much will it cost? The study anticipates a range of \$12,000,000 to \$18,000,000 for capital costs to develop the facility. Operating cost would be in the range of \$15/sf annually.

Where will it go? The Parks & Recreation Department is considering two potential locations 1) Fred Fuller Park across Middlebury Road. 2) Fairchild Fields at Fairchild Avenue and Majors Lane.

How will it be funded? The capital costs may be funded through a voter-approved bond levy, anticipated to be between \$80 and \$100 per year on the average home. Operating costs will be funded through user fees, partner income, and a portion of the annual recreation budget.

OPRA keeps data on P&R levies and from 2010 to 2016 80% of recreation centers have passed. We need to build consensus in the community to support the center. Don't assume it will pass. Two different sites were reviewed, across the street from Fred Fuller and Fairchild fields. The land across the street will need property acquisition and would be a connection to the park, it has better access. The Fairchild site has the existing service building and the Akron water right of way and is surrounded by residents. A site plan showing a 90,000 sf building was reviewed for each site. Council liaison Melissa Long emphasized the importance of having a dedicated space for seniors.

Correspondence: No questions

Expenditures: No questions

Revenue: No questions

Park Report: The plaques for Dr. Walter Lang and Harvey Redmond have been installed.

Rec Report: Soccer is at 340 players that is close to last year. Nancy would like a motion to reduce the daytime hours at the Fitness Center. Members can still work out when the building is open for classes. This will be a saving of about \$1500 in wages. **Kim moves to accept the new hours at the fitness center and**

Debbie seconds and there is no more discussion and the motion passes unanimously.

Director Report:

1. The site plan and conditional zoning certificate was approved by the Planning Commission and variances were approved by the Board of Building Appeals and Board of Zoning Appeals. We are required to purchase the easement because Walgreens is unable to donate it to us, because their mortgage will not allow that. We have requested it be included as part of the project budget and make it eligible for reimbursement.
2. If we plan on putting the Health & Wellness Center on the ballot May 2nd we will have to move quickly, because the legislation must be approved 90 days prior to the election.
3. HZW has requested a right of entry agreement from the city to enable them to conduct the hazardous soil removal in the north ditch behind Kramer #4. The Corps of Engineers is requiring replanting of 300 seedling per acre. John asked for a 2 to 1 replacement of 6 to 8 foot trees, because they are on park property and we can hold them to a higher standard.
4. Covered in Park Report.
5. The East Main Street Lofts park fee has been reconfigured again. Previously it was considered a rooming house. The new zoning will be multifamily per living unit. 2.6 per unit charge will change the fee slightly. John asked for approval of the East Main Street Lofts 1700 Horning Rd park fee at 2.444 acres x \$30,000/acre = \$73,320.00. **Jack moves to accept the revised fee and Debbie seconds and all are in favor. The motion passes unanimously.**
6. The house on Longcoy Ave has been demolished and the basement filled in with dirt donated by a contractor.
7. John handed out a sketch showing the building addition and the driveway moved to the property line for the Family & Community Services project next to Brady's Leap Park. They will be moving trees and shrubs on their property and one tree on the property line. They will grade and restore grass, install approximately 30 feet of sandstone retaining wall, plant trees to create a buffer and relocate one street light. A memorandum of understanding will be executed detailing the scope of work.
8. The extended trail at Jesse Smith was approved by the City of Akron Utilities at 10 feet wide along the tree line. We have stockpiled asphalt grindings to continue the trail along Majors Lane and will begin construction next month.
9. The fence replacement for Kramer #4 is out for bid. The field will be increase the outfield by 20 feet and be six feet instead of four feet high.
10. City Council requested we do the snow removal program again. Last year we had below average snowfall. The city reimbursed us for 1 6-month person. City Council approved reimbursement to P&R for \$16,500. John would like a motion to assist the city with the sidewalk snow removal project for 2016/2017 winter. **Debbie motions and Kim seconded there is no more discussion and the motion passes unanimously.**
11. The board goes into executive session to discuss land acquisition related to the health and wellness center.

At 7:47 the board adjourns.