

**FRIENDS OF COLLIER PARKS & RECREATION
MINUTES OF APRIL 18, 2022 BOARD MEETING**

- I. The meeting was called to order by Mary Ann Cupples-Wisniowski at 3:33 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Mary Ann Cupples-Wisniowski, Deb Zymroz, Anna Ewing, Marilyn Townsend, Kyle Linner, Susan Linner

Absent: Dave Brown, Sarah Brown (resigned prior to meeting), Sadie Sterner Restivo

Guests: Josh Werner, Director/Parks and Recreation Department

- II. Minutes of the March 21, 2022 meeting were approved as submitted.

- III. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

- IV. Reports

Treasurer's Report by Deb Zymroz: The current balance is \$27,134.74.

Report of March 21, 2022 Parks and Recreation Board meeting by Anna Ewing:

Although four people were recently hired to work the front desk, one has already resigned. Staffing the front desk is an ongoing challenge.

There will be no additional fees charged to anyone who rents a picnic shelter and either wishes to (a) use food truck vendors to cater their event or (b) erect a tent as long as the tent size does not interfere with any of the surrounding areas used by the general public.

In the near future, Josh will propose a list of groups to be offered a membership discount at the Community Center.

Josh continues to maintain a spreadsheet of the work to be performed by Public Works. If any Board members become aware of any projects which need attention, you are encouraged to contact Josh.

The cost of the playground/splash pad is significant (approximately \$600,000) and will require a matching amount to be paid by Collier Township. Hopefully, funding via a grant will be forthcoming in the future.

Josh Werner has entered into discussions with the soccer/baseball/softball associations with regard to fundraising possibilities to help defray the cost of the improvements requested by these organizations. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the \$7,000 which has been given to the baseball association in past years with no accountability for spending. That \$7,000

will now be used to help defray the cost of field improvements. The Char-Valley High School softball team has agreed to contribute \$2,500 for their use of the field at Webb Park (small Webb field). There was also a discussion with regard to turning large Webb field into two smaller fields. It was also brought to the attention of the Board by Susan Linner that the lights at Webb Park remain on throughout the night. Going forward, the coach/manager of the last game played will be responsible for turning off the lights. Also discussed was the use of the fields by associations located in Scott Township, Bridgeville and Heidelberg since the cost of maintaining the fields is absorbed 100% by Collier Township with no contribution from any of the neighboring communities. Josh proposed that the Parks and Recreation Department assume responsibility for registration, etc. for these sports instead of the associations, which would then allow the Parks and Recreation Department to collect the registration fees, etc. to improve the fields/parks. Josh will approach the Parks and Recreation Board and the township commissioners regarding a proposed increase in the rental fees for the township pavilions, party room and banquet room as the rental fees have not been raised for many years.

The Community Center permits the use of wheelchairs on the indoor track, but does not permit the use of strollers.

Deb Zymroz expressed concern over the lack of preparedness at the Community Center as an emergency/warming center. Safety measures need to be implemented and the staff needs to be educated (i.e., CPR training, etc.) The Community Center is in need of a wheelchair and/or stretcher. The storage of cots/blankets is problematic; however, these items can be provided by local organizations in the event they are needed.

V. Old Business

Food Truck Vendors – Kyle Linner advised of the issues he has encountered with regard to the scheduling of food truck vendors for the soccer games, concerts in the park, etc. He further advised of his resignation at the conclusion of today’s meeting due to other obligations which have placed significant time constraints on his schedule. Responsibility for the food truck vendors will once again be handled by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Monument Path Stones: Both Mary Ann and Deb advised of the problems they have encountered with the two large stones which have been ordered and the one to be ordered in memory of Dan Styche. Absent a response from Collier Stone, Mary Ann will contact the persons who ordered the stones to see if they want a refund or if they want Friends to continue their attempts to fill the orders.

Bill Wegner’s presentation will be rescheduled for May 10, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at the Community Center due to a lack of response for the April 21, 2022 presentation.

Earth Day/April 23, 2022, beginning at 9:00 a.m. – This project will be handled by Public Works; however, the Parks and Recreation Department will provide donuts/coffee in the morning and a pizza lunch following the cleanup. Mary Ann and Deb volunteered to help serve the coffee/donuts. Approximately 30-40 people are expected to participate.

VI. Fundraisers

No fundraisers are currently in progress.

Mary Ann suggested the possibility of selling soap and candles as a future fundraiser in lieu of a fall mum sale. She will provide additional information at the May meeting.

Deb suggested a Christmas fundraiser with Applelicious, which is located in Carnegie.

VII. New Business

Silver Sneakers – Beginning on April 18, 2022, the Community Center received approval to offer this program. Anyone with a Silver Sneakers card will be able to use the track and cardio equipment and will have access to the pickleball courts on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The Silver Sneakers program will pay the Parks and Recreation Department \$2.50 each time a member signs in, with a maximum payment of \$20 per member each month. Currently, there are approximately 1,800 Silver Sneakers members within a five-mile radius of the Community Center. The Community Center must maintain a log-in of 50+ members per month to continue eligibility for this program.

VIII. Board Member Comments

Mary Ann advised that the township received a \$100,000 grant from the county, which will be used for construction of a restroom on the Panhandle Trail near the dog park, to extend the road from the stockyard to the trail, and to run a water supply line from the trail to the stockyard (which currently has no source of water).

Dave Brown notified Mary Ann of his intent to donate three trees in memory of Anthony Zymroz, Officer Brown, and Dan Styche. Public Works will plant the trees.

Deb confirmed with Josh that Friends will be permitted to sell 50/50 tickets at each of the eight concerts.

IX. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on May 16, 2022, 3:30 p.m., at the Municipal Building.

X. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.