

**The City of Wickliffe**  
**Parks and Recreation Committee**  
Meeting Minutes  
September 10th, 2009

A regular meeting of the Wickliffe Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairperson Beal on Thursday, September 10th, 2009 at 7:35P.M. in Council Chambers of Wickliffe City Hall.

**Members Present**

- ★ Joanne Beal                      ★ Kim Hildack                      ★ Sue Mancino
- ★ Anthony Vitale                ★ Dan Ivancic                      ★ Matt Jaworski
- ★ Carole Zalokar                ★ Nicole Lorenzo                ★ Sr. Citizen Coordinator Barbara Kirsch

**Also Present**

- ★ Recreation Director Timothy Stopp    ★ Service Garage Superintendent Joe D'Ambrosio

**Members Absent**

- ★ None

**Members Excused**

- ★ Bridget Burkett                      ★ Julie Ganim

**Approval of Minutes**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>Motion:</b>    | Motion by Lorenzo, seconded by Kirsch, that the minutes from the June 11th, 2009 meeting be approved as presented. |
| <b>Roll Call:</b> | Ayes: All<br>Nays: None  |
| <b>Result:</b>    | Motion carried.<br><b>Minutes approved.</b>  |

**Approval of Agenda**

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|-------------------|---|
| <b>Motion:</b>    | Motion by Vitale, seconded by Lorenzo, that the agenda for the September 10th, 2009 meeting be approved as presented. |
| <b>Roll Call:</b> | Ayes: All<br>Nays: None   |
| <b>Result:</b>    | Motion carried.<br><b>Agenda approved.</b>  |

## **Introduction of Guests**

None

## **Audience Participation**

None

## **Communications**

None

## **Reports**

### **Joe D'Ambrosio, Service Garage Superintendent**

Mr. D'Ambrosio noted that the Service Department has been busy cutting grass, lining ball fields, etc. He went park by park to let us know what had been taken care of (Park Tour Report).

Intihar: Basketball hoops were reinstalled after baseball season. Mancino questioned whether the nets could be put up and down on a daily basis. It was noted that this is too labor intensive. Also, three companies put in bids for dead branch removal and tree trimming (in all the parks). Imperial Tree was awarded the contract.

Jindra: The fence around the pool area does need to be painted. There is no time frame for this to be completed. The dispenser in the restrooms was repaired. Pavelecky put up temporary orange fencing around the construction area (for safety). Zalokar noted that there were no locks on the stall doors in the pool restrooms, and that it was repeatedly filthy. She told the front desk staff and the pool manager on numerous occasions, even asked for cleaning supplies and cleaned it herself once. Mr. Stopp noted that she should have brought it to his attention if she did not get satisfaction from her discussion with the pool manager. She also suggested keeping Jindra pool open for the final week, as the only people at Coulby in the final week were the regulars from Jindra. Tennis courts replacement was questioned... there is no definite plan at this time.

Featherston: The damaged tree was removed, weeds were trimmed. It was decided to leave the backstop in place.

Orlando: The plaque has been re-installed. Soccer fields are lined. Sprayground well used. Broken picnic table removed, repaired, and replaced. Lorenzo noted that she has a magazine with some creative ideas for things to be done on the empty concrete pad. Another basketball court was suggested for the concrete pad. It was noted that the tennis courts are in need of repair. They do get used, and it was suggested to repair before they get too bad to use and need replacement.

Levi Lane: The broken swing and picnic table were repaired. The bricking on the damaged grill was repaired.

Nehls: Major improvements were done here. The comfort station received a new roof and was painted inside and out. The old skating rink was filled in and seeded w/ grass. The interior fence was removed and re-graded.

Coulby Pool: It was noted that Coulby Pool was built so a handicap ladder was not necessary. It was suggested that the zero depth area is too far from the swimming area. A place nearer to the lap lanes is needed for this ladder. It was suggested that it be put in near the lap lanes, not in the lap lanes, as this would cause loss of a swimming lane for swim meets. The call button was discussed. It was suggested that there is a phone there, and many have cell phones... a call to 911 would be just as quick this way. The gate suggested near the lazy river could be put in. This is a possibility. Lorenzo noted that the concession area (both inside and outside the pool) was filthy on numerous occasions. It was suggested that pool staff do a better job of emptying trash and maintaining our pools. It was noted that all the curtains in the ladies shower room were ripped. It was also noted that paint is peeling (badly) in the pool, and the rubber matting is also peeling. Also, there is a "hole" (large depression) near the kiddie water slide on the hose side that could cause injury to patrons. It was also noted that Coulby has a significant leak that has been difficult to find the source of. This is still being worked on.

Coulby Park: Fence has not been installed around kiddie area. It was noted that this may no longer be necessary. It was suggested that benches be installed around this area, similar to the benches around the Sprayground area (not tables). There is still equipment remaining in the old kiddie area, and it is still being used. The goose droppings were discussed. Many suggestions were made, especially daily cleanup around the day camp pavilion. It was noted that many things have been implemented without success.

### **Timothy Stopp, Recreation Director**

Summer was busy.

The Family Fun Nights were well attended with 300+ people attending each of the two at the Community/Senior Center and over 450 at the one held at Coulby.

The Concerts in the Park were also well attended. Summer Camp had 97 kids with an average daily attendance of 69.5 kids. Michelle Jones did a great job with this program. Non-residents were accepted at a higher rate. Field trips were kept "local" to keep expense to parents down.

The "Wickliffe Appreciation Night" at the Captains game was a success - over a section and a half was sold. The mayor threw out the first pitch.

Every four years the Swim Championships are held in Wickliffe. There was a lot of positive feedback. A special thank you goes out to the Service Department for all their help with this event. It was noted that we need to think about alternatives for parking - the front lawn is not the best place. Battle of the Pools (lifeguards competing) raised \$203 for United Way. The Dog Swim raised \$114. A plaque that was donated was installed to honor Keith Peterson, former pool manager who passed away at age 26 due to cancer. Tee Ball and Pee Wee baseball had 229 kids. Pool sales were down this year (121 total passes), about 10% decrease. Jindra attendance was up this year (more "open" days were added this year), but the daily average was down. Attendance at the Aquatic Center was down, possibly due to "swimmable days" (cold weather).

Golf at Greenridge was up this year. (Beer is now available.) It was suggested to add an ATM to this location.

Vending machines at Jindra were discussed. Mr. Stopp noted that he had been in contact with Pepsi who said they would put machines there, but never did. It was suggested to try Coke and other "snacks" (in addition to the cold candy bars and ice cream) such as chips and pretzels.

A special thank you to Dan and Kim and their families for helping with the activities on Fourth of July. The Craft Fair will be on October 2nd and 3rd. Volunteers are needed.

Volunteers are also needed for the Halloween Party (on October 26th).

Jaworski noted that he received a complaint that the summer camp was closed when it rains. Mr. Stopp noted that this is incorrect. The camp is held in the Rec Hall (above the old fire station). It is tight, but it works.

### **Barb Kirsch, Senior Citizen Coordinator**

See written report (attached)

It was suggested that someone assist who has knowlwdge of Excel (for the membership dilemma). Also, it was questioned if all trips are gambling trips. It was noted that they are not, but these are the most popular. Trips to see theatrical productions (downtown and otherwise) were suggested.

### **Matthew Jaworski, Representative from Council**

The Lee Terrace Board commented about Featherston Park. They love the new entrance, but would like to see more picnic tables and trash cans. Aslo, they wondered if playground equipment for older children might be considered. There was some graffiti here, but parents "blacked it out" themselves. It was noted that there are occasionally issues with drainage at this park; it can be swampy.

### **Anthony Vitale, Representative from School Board**

The enhancements (at the high school) are finished; new windows, new boiler, paint inside and out, ceilings, parking lot, etc. The little building is gone.

The tree (the oldest oak in Lake County, as authenticated bby the Audobon Society) was damaged in a storm and had to be taken down - it was rotten inside. Approximately 12-14 feet was left standing. The thought was that possibly a carving or such could be done to commemorate the tree.

The new principal at the High School, Mrs. Foote, has some wonderful new ideas, including a bonfire to follow the Homecoming Parade. Both she and the new Principal at the middle school, Miss Mucci, seem to be working well.

A senior/senior dance was suggested again. Mr. Vitale suggested that Mrs. Foote be contacted. Ivancic questioned the library as part of the Board of Education. It was noted that the library board is appointed by the Board of Education and their budget is approved by the BOE.

Ivancic questioned the issues with aftercare. It was noted that this is no longer an issue due to the Lights on After School program. It was noted that the signage at the library still exists suggesting a problem. Also noted that it has been suggested to the library to remove the signage and "repeal" the after school stipulations, but they have refused.

Lorenzo passed and article regarding shared funding on the building of a sports complex to Mr. Vitale. It was suggested to make a copy for Mr. Stopp, then requested that copies be made for all commission members.

## **Old Business**

### **Use of Parks**

Nothing new to report.

### **Other**

None

## **New Business**

### **Other**

Lorenzo passed along info regarding babysitter training to Mr. Stopp.

The new Get Fit business on Euclid Avenue has great programs that are inexpensive.

A teen dance was suggested. It was noted that the schools do this.

The skate park was brought up. This issue will be discussed at the next meeting.

The dog park was brought up. It was noted that no one wants this in their backyard, and all our parks are "house-locked".

It was suggested that an "action items list" be compiled and discussed at the next meeting. Maintenance vs. infrastructure should be considered, as well as money vs. manpower. We will go through the list and prioritize and recommend to council what we believe would be a good beginning of a strategic plan for our parks/recreation.

It was suggested to get juvenile (or senior) volunteers to do work (such as fence painting). It was noted that this might be an issue with the union.

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| <b>Motion:</b>    | Motion by Lorenzo, seconded by Vitale, to Recommend that options be explored for the possibility of a skate park at ABB in the unused portion of their parking lot.. |
| <b>Roll Call:</b> | Ayes: All<br>Nays: None  |
| <b>Result:</b>    | Motion carried.  |

## **Announcements**

Next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, October 8th, 2009 at 7:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

## **Action Items**

It was suggested that an Action Items area be added to the minutes. There were no new action items at this month's meeting.

| <b>Person Responsible:</b> | <b>Action Item</b>                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Lorenzo</b>             | Begin planning for "nearly new" sale |

## **Adjournment**

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| <b>Motion:</b>    | Motion by Vitale, seconded by Lorenzo, to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 P.M. |
| <b>Roll Call:</b> | Ayes: All<br>Nays: None  |
| <b>Result:</b>    | Motion carried.<br><b>Meeting Adjourned.</b>                               |

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Chairman

Respectfully submitted,

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Sandra J. Fink, Secretary