

Marion County Parks And Recreation Commission

__March 18, 2024__ – Regular Meeting Minutes

5:30 Community Grant Allocation Meeting

Present: Jay Ford, Phil Burton, Jimmy Bledsoe, Tony Michalski, Tina Mascaro
Tony presented all the grants that were submitted and the recommended allocations. Discussions were held regarding each request. The committee agreed with Tony's recommendations and will present them at the regular meeting for approval.

6:00 PM CVB Conference Room

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT:

Jay Ford, President
Robert Brookover, Vice Pres.
Craig White, Secretary
J. Philip Burton, Treasurer
Jimmy Bledsoe
Tracy Evans
Rick Garcia
Cathy Maxwell
Josh Rice
Dave Shaw
Butch Tennant

STAFF

PRESENT:

Tony Michalski, Director
Tina Mascaro, Sports Management Director

GUESTS:

Brandi Hankins – Fairmont Little League
Brad Ross – Fairmont Little League
David Mezzanotte – Fairmont Little League
Daniel Stevens – EFHS softball boosters
Michael Snyder – EFHS softball boosters

I. Opening of the meeting and approval of minutes

The meeting was called to order at __6:00__p.m. by _Jay Ford_(President).

President Ford recognized all guests at tonight's meeting and indicated that we would forego the agenda to allow each guest an opportunity to speak.

Fairmont Little League representatives presented their proposed opening day schedule and discussed parking concerns, construction concerns, and fireworks issues. They had a handout with the schedule and details outlined that they shared with each board member. Discussion was held and MCPARC board members had no issues with the event and felt confident that FLL would ensure that no persons entered the construction zone and that with the assistance of police reserve security that parking could be monitored. Questions were raised regarding the construction project and any additional delays for use of the A-Field. MCPARC officials felt confident that a May 1st date for games on that field could be adhered to by the construction company. Even though the project would not be completed at that date, MCPARC will place additional bleachers in the outfield for persons to view the game from. Tina indicated that all persons entering the field will have to do so from the back gate and that there is the potential for the fence along the 3rd base/outfield line to be temporarily down but that the field would still be playable.

East Fairmont High School softball boosters spoke on behalf of their community grant that they submitted for \$14,000 worth of assistance for a retaining wall behind the school. They stated that the hill keeps slipping down onto the road and that the existing French drain system in place is no

longer taking the water which then causes the water and mud to run behind the backstop and onto the field leaving the area very wet to play on. MCPARC board members had some concerns that this was Marion County Board of Education property and this type of request did not fall into the guidelines of what the MCPARC Community Grant covers. They booster group also requested assistance with converting their field to the Duraedge product that MCPARC used on EFHS, FSHS, and NMHS baseball fields last year. Board member Jimmy Bledsoe spoke regarding this surface and his recommendations for that to be a fall project. MCPARC will look into completing both EFHS and NMHS softball fields with Duraedge product during the next fiscal year.

The motion was made by ___Cathy Maxwell_ and seconded by _Tracy Evans_ for the **approval of the minutes** for _February 26, 2024_. Motion Carried ___X_____ Motion Denied _____

II. Financial Report for ___February 2024___

Phil Burton indicated that he had no questions regarding the financial information submitted.

The motion was made by __Josh Rice__ and seconded by _Craig White__ for the **financial report and invoices** for ___February 29, 2024___ . Motion Carried ___X_____ Motion Denied _____

III. Committee Reports

- a. Program and Planning – committee members met prior to the meeting to review all community grant applications and made their recommendations; these will be voted on during the directors report.
- b. Finance
- c. Nominating – Josh Rice asked if all nominees for officers accepted their nominations; Tony indicated that they had. The motion was made by __Josh Rice__ and seconded by __Rick Garcia__ to approve the slate presented by the nominating committee (Phil Burton) for the 2024 MCPARC board officers: President – Jay Ford, Vice-President – Robert Brookover, Secretary – Craig White, Treasurer – Phil Burton. Motion Carried__X__ Motion Denied _____
- d. Personnel

IV. Director's Report

- a. Community grant allocations – the committee met and approved the recommendations Tony submitted. Recommendations were presented to the board (handout included).

The motion was made by __Phil Burton_ and seconded by _Cathy Maxwell__ for the **approval of** _the 2024 Community Grant request allocations as submitted by Tony__ . Motion Carried ___X_____ Motion Denied _____

- b. Approval of 2024 MCPARC committees – President Jay Ford approved the following committees:
Finance Committee – Phil Burton, Dave Shaw
Program and Planning Committee – Josh Rice, Rick Garcia, Cathy Maxwell, Craig Whtie, Tracy Evans

Nominating Committee – Josh Rice, Butch Tennant, Tracy Evans, Craig White
Personnel Committee – Jimmy Bledsoe, Rick Garcia, Butch Tennant, Bob Brookover, Phil Burton

- c. Mary Lou Retton project update: renovation pictures from March 11th were shared with the group. We have incurred a soil compaction issue for the foundation of the main building. Veritas is working on estimating the cost for a change order to alter the foundation accordingly. This compaction problem will set back the timeline; Tony will keep the board informed on the change order as soon as more information is received. Tony spoke to the County Administrator and learned that they are leaning towards loaning MCPARC the \$700,000 for the project through their available ARPA funds instead of from the MCDA. It was asked how we prefer to receive these funds. Discussion was held and the board agreed that a promissory note with monthly payments at zero interest would be our preferred method. Tony will relay that to the County Administrator. The board asked if we could ensure a firm May 1st date for use of the A-Ball field.
- d. Project report:
 - i. Renovations were completed to the baseball field at Greentown in conjunction with Rivesville Youth Baseball.
 - ii. Infield mix was provided to Rivesville school field, Barrackville little league field, Hutchinson field, Worthington field, Barrackville school field, and the Mannington baseball fields. We will also be delivering infield mix to Jayenne School and Fairmont State University field.
 - iii. Duraedge infield mix should be arriving soon and will be provided to all three high school baseball teams.
 - iv. We have been asked to help with the softball field at Fairmont State University. On initial analysis, maintenance determined that the field was too wet and soft to get our equipment on. Some major drainage work needs to be completed on that field area. Tina explained that initially when our maintenance crew went to work on the field neither FSU's physical plant nor athletic department were aware that we were given permission to perform maintenance on the field. Now that all parties have been notified, MCPARC will perform some nail drag work to the field and drop off some infield mix for them.
 - v. Water has been turned on and bathrooms opened at all parks.
 - vi. Maintenance will be renovating the small bathroom located at Mary Lou Retton Park near the pavilion.
 - vii. The office has seen an increase in reservations in all our parks/facilities.
 - viii. We will continue to assist all the spring sports that operate at our parks.
- e. Pool report: Both pools have been drained and the process of cleaning and acid washing them has begun. We will be spot painting some areas of both pools and reapplying the main compaction joint at both pools before filling. We plan on filling the Wave Pool a week earlier in case there are any issues with the new wave chamber gates. The WV state waterslide inspection information has been completed and sent to the State Department of Labor. The annual inspection will be scheduled for mid-May. Lifeguard certification and in-service training dates are being finalized; help wanted ads have been distributed for all summer positions. MCPARC is the main sponsor of the Marion County Track meet on April 9th and we will be actively recruiting guards at this event.

Rick Garcia asked that we check the trees that overhang over the minor's memorial at MLR park. Tony will let the maintenance crew know to look into the issue.

V. Sports Management Director Report

a. Community Engagement

- i.** Maintenance had found a memorial stone shoved under a grate in one of our lift stations in East Marion park. We worked to find the family and they were grateful to have it returned to them.
- ii.** Collaboration with the City of Fairmont and others to Celebrate Trails Day on April 27, powered by the rails to trails conservancy.
- iii.** Donated Easter eggs to the town of Baxter for their Easter event.
- iv.** Donated Easter eggs and pool passes to the town of Farmington for their Easter event and raffle fundraiser.
- v.** Connected with Clark's Nursery to work with MCPARC's Christmas tree program for the 2024 Christmas season.
- vi.** Donated lime to WFMS softball program for use at FSU's field that they will be playing on. Tony and Tina met with FSU President regarding permission of MCPARC to complete some maintenance work on that field. Our maintenance crew evaluated the field and determined that it was too wet to bring large equipment on. FSU physical plant and athletic department were unaware that MCPARC was asked to complete the maintenance on that field so work was put on hold until all parties and administrators were notified. MCPARC has agreed to nail drag it and dump infield mix for them to use.

b. Programs

- i.** MCPARC K-3 basketball league ended March 2 with a skills showcase for the K-1 league and a tournament for the 2-3 league. Each team received a voucher to be used for an end of season party. There were a total of 27 teams, over 330 kids and 102 + games were played.
- ii.** Summer programming calendar was included in the board packet.
- iii.** With the exception of Marion County Soccer, all MOU's and insurance certificates have been turned in. We currently have FSHS baseball and softball, Fairmont Little League, Fringe Little League, EFMS softball, EFHS and FSHS tennis, Marion County Girls Fast Pitch Softball Association and Marion County Youth Soccer Teams scheduled in our various parks.
- iv.** I continue to work closely with Thrasher and Veritas for the MLR project.
- v.** Community garden is now taking reservations for the garden beds. Open house is scheduled for April 13th 3:00 – 6:00.
- vi.** Swim Lessons: session 1 June 24th – 28th session 2 July 8th – 12th
- vii.** Tennis Lessons: session 1 June 11th – 27th, session 2 July 1st – 12th
- viii.** Pickleball Exercise class: March 20, 27 and April 3rd, 10th
- ix.** Family Fishing Day at Curtisville Lake – March 29th 10:00am – 2:00pm
- x.** Guyses Run Fishing Park will open April 20th
- xi.** Summer day camp and playground program June 10th – July 19th

VI. Maintenance Report – list of completed projects for February was included. One of our crew members had major shoulder surgery and will be out for several weeks and one of our pool foremen is battling some health issues.

VII. New Business

None

VIII. President’s Remarks

None

IX. Around the Horn

- a. **J. Bledsoe** – no comment
- b. **R. Brookover** - absent
- c. **P. Burton**– no comment
- d. **T. Evans** – thank you to the board for the sympathy card for the loss of her mother
- e. **J. Ford**– no comment
- f. **R. Garcia**– no comment
- g. **C. Maxwell**– no comment
- h. **J. Rice**– no comment
- i. **D. Shaw**- absent
- j. **B. Tennant**- absent
- k. **C. White**– no comment

With no further business, the motion was made by __Josh Rice__ and seconded by _Craig White___ for meeting adjournment at __7:16__ PM. The motion carried.

Tina Mascaro Sports Management Director 3-20-2024

Minutes Recorded By (Signature)	Title	Date
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Approved/ Disapproved	Initials	Date
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