

Mayor David L. Koontz

Parks & Cemetery Board Memorandum

To: Karla R. Richards, Clerk of Council
From: Paula Fisher, Interim Boards & Commissions Secretary
Date: 4/10/09
Re: Approved/Signed Parks & Cemetery Board Minutes

Attached you will find a copy of the approved/signed minutes from the Park & Cemetery Board meeting held on Thursday, March 12, 2009

Please note that the original document has been forwarded to, and will be on file with the Clerk of Council for the official record.

E-Mail: Mayor (per Admin. Asst.)
Administrative Officer
Finance Director
Office Manager
Law Director
Director of Planning & Community Development
Superintendent of Building & Zoning
Building & Zoning Inspector
Municipal Engineer
Council (6)
Parks & Recreation Board (5)

CC: Parks Crew Leader
Tom Jones (Council)
PRB File/Posting
William Mowery

PARK & CEMETERY BOARD CITY OF NORTON

Thursday, March 12, 2009

The Park and Cemetery Board of the City of Norton, Ohio, convened for a public meeting in Council Chambers of the Safety Administration Building. Chairperson Neva Gibson called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

I. ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Neva Gibson, Pam Dixon, Lisa Merrick, John Conklin, Scott Testa

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Ann Campbell

II. OLD BUSINESS:

Chairperson Gibson stated the old business would be about the Summer Entertainment letter from Ann Campbell. Ann Campbell stated that she had the letter emailed out to the Board and had received some corrections for it but she had been out of the office last week and was trying to figure whether the letter would be coming from the City or the Mayor. Ms. Campbell stated that she would make the changes to the letter and that it would be best to hand deliver personally to the people. Ms. Campbell had the schedule of bands for the concerts and passed them to the Board. (See Exhibit) Ms. Campbell stated that the Mayor made the decision to call it Warm Up for the Weekend and the Board may use the schedule to take to the sponsors and then they can turn the money back in and use it for promotional purposes. Chairperson Gibson stated that she would prefer to have the Mayor sign the letter because it would be more personable. Ms. Campbell stated that she could either use the electronic signature or have him actually sign the letter and make copies of the letter. Chairperson Gibson asked when Ms. Campbell could have the letter available? Ms. Campbell stated she could have the letter done anytime. Ms. Campbell stated that the Mayor has already approved the letter and she will just need to clean it up and have printed.

Chairperson Gibson stated for the record that Mr. Conklin arrived at 5:10pm for the meeting. Chairperson Gibson thanked Ms. Campbell for the work that she has done and stated that the letter looks good.

John Conklin asked Ms. Campbell about Clean-Up day. Ms. Campbell stated that the Mayor has been promoting it quite heavily, however we have not had anyone contact us about participating. Ms. Campbell stated that she is going to send another letter out to remind them. Ms. Campbell stated that the Mayor is going to be planting a tree near the baseball fields. Chairperson Gibson asked Ms. Campbell when the Mayor was planting the tree. Ms. Campbell stated that she has sent an email to the Mayor inquiring as to what day he wanted to plant the tree and Ms. Campbell stated maybe Earth Day, which is Wednesday, April 22, 2009, on Arbor Day, which is Friday, April 24. Clean-Up Day will be Saturday, April 25, 2009 so you can see it will be a Green Week. Ms. Campbell stated she is going to use this time as a photo-op. Ms. Campbell stated that we have had people complain that we took the trees out for the baseball fields, and now we are going to put one back. There will be no dedication and it is not in memory of anyone. Ms. Campbell stated they need to have adults volunteer for the Clean-Up day for the area of Rte. 585 and 21. We cannot put teen-agers or small children on the highways for safety purposes. Chairperson Gibson thanked Ms. Campbell for her presentation.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

Chairperson Gibson welcomed Pam Dixon to the Parks and Cemetery Board.

A.) Update on the Local Cemetery

Chairperson Gibson asked Ms. Merrick for the update on the local Cemetery. Ms. Merrick stated that she gave Ms. Dixon the packet about the cemeteries that were given to the other members when the 2 Boards combined. Ms. Merrick stated she has been to Trinity Lutheran copying records that were there and had the secretary from the Genealogy Society come one day when they found some old records written on linen paper and they dissected the records and when the Society gets the records back to us we should have some new names in the books. Ms. Merrick stated that the original records they found dated back to 1892 and we know there are burials as early as 1817. We have owner plot maps from 1892 with updates from 1946, 1961 and 1966 and another cemetery layout from 1998 and copies of funeral records from 1898 until now and they are trying to compile all the records to see what they are going to find new.

B.) Request for Monetary Donations for Trees at Western Star

Ms. Merrick stated that the cemetery representative from the OGS took a walk out at Loyal Oak and Western Star Cemetery and she told Ms. Merrick to contact Judge Spicer and his family members, since they have about 20 relatives buried there, to see if Ms. Merrick could receive donations to put new trees in the cemetery. Ms. Merrick stated that Judge Spicer would be donating \$300.00 to have new trees planted there. Ms. Merrick stated she is sending letters to the other relatives to see if they are willing to donate. Ms. Merrick stated that the secretary for Judge Spicer, Lois Noirot, is the editor for the Highpoint, which is the publication for the OGS. Ms. Noirot questioned Ms. Merrick about the Himelrigh Cemetery, which is basically landlocked. Ms. Merrick stated the research is as far as she can go. Ms. Merrick stated that apparently no one owns it. Ms. Merrick stated that she is working with Summit County Fiscal Office to see who owns the property now. Mr. Conklin asked Ms. Merrick whom she was talking to at PPG and Ms. Merrick stated Nick Narbutitus. Mr. Conklin asked Ms. Merrick how many stones and graves were up there, and Ms. Merrick stated that she was not sure how many because of the vandalism that has taken place. Ms. Merrick stated that you could maybe see 10 stones and they are mammoth stones. Ms. Merrick stated that they found bases but most of the stones are gone. Chairperson Gibson questioned how do you know the names that you have and Ms. Merrick stated only from the stones they read. Mr. Conklin questioned if Ms. Merrick had talked with any of the Himelrigh's, and Ms. Merrick stated that yes they did know about it but doesn't seem to interested, but a woman who lives in California wants to be kept updated. Ms. Merrick stated that it is up to the private citizens. Chairperson Gibson thanked Ms. Merrick for the update.

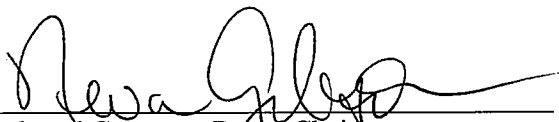
Chairperson Gibson stated that she talked to some people who were very upset about the cutting down of the trees behind the gazebo. Chairperson Gibson spoke to Mr. Ryland and he stated that they were cutting down the trees to make room for the concerts and for the drainage of the area. Chairperson Gibson stated that she drove down to the park and when she arrived she saw the standing water and saw how it was going to be improved. Chairperson Gibson stated that she is totally behind the Administration's decision to do what they are doing. Chairperson Gibson stated that with putting in the drainage line and the cutting of the trees, it would alleviate the water problems and the mosquitoes in the park. Mr. Testa stated that a lot of people fail to realize that the city is not going to go cut trees down if they don't have to. Chairperson Gibson asked how many Parks and Cemetery Board members are able to volunteer for Norton's Clean Up Day and most of them stated they would try to be there to help.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

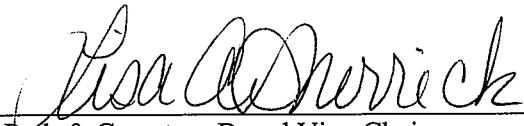
The Board reviewed the minutes of Thursday, February 12, 2009. Chairperson Gibson called for a motion to approve the minutes. **Mr. Conklin moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Testa seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Mr. Conklin -Yes, Mr. Testa-Yes, Ms. Gibson-Yes, Ms. Dixon - Abstained Ms. Merrick - Yes. The motion passed 4-0, approving the minutes. Minutes were signed and processed accordingly.**

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Gibson announced the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, April 9, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. With no further business coming before the Board, Chairperson Gibson adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.



Park and Cemetery Board Chairperson
Or Vice-Chairperson



Park & Cemetery Board Vice-Chairperson
or Member

4/9/09
Date: