

Evendale Recreation Commission May 20, 2010

Called to order at 7:29am

Roll call: Stiney Vonderhaar, John Doviak, David Nichols, Alicia Hirnikel, Pamela Meyers, Wayne Mosley.

Absent: Michele Gottschlich and Gus Janszen.

Recognition of visitors: Jim Cole, resident, and member of the Gorman Heritage Farm Board

Motion to approve April minutes, as modified, made by Stiney Vonderhaar; seconded by John Doviak. Motion approved.

Additions to the agenda: Jim Cole - Gorman Heritage Farm and the Evendale Trails System

New Business:

Jim Cole - Gorman Heritage Farm and the Evendale Trails System

- Recently found in the original contract with the Village, there is a 100' set back from residential property to any farm fencing . The wording was found during the recent contract review for the renewal agreement with the farm.
- From the "pasture" fence, there would be a ten foot space for the mowers to get through. This ten foot space would be continued throughout all pasture areas. Gates would extend across these paths to allow farm animals to be moved from one pasture to another.
- The current trail to the look-out house will be maintained; as well as those to the interpretive building, and along the telephone company building to the interpretive building. Other trails need to be repaired or farm may allow trails to grow natural.
- If the farm modifies its trails, do they need the middle pasture tails?
- A meeting will be held for all those involved, and commission members interested, to go down to the farm and walk or drive (cart) the various trails to see which ones should be maintained, removed or modified, or allowed to become wilderness trail designated. Stiney will email David with his available dates.
- Could the Boy Scouts help by doing service projects and earning their merit badges?
- AmeriCorps has been there; but the rain did not allow them to accomplish as much as hoped.
- David will get the maps from Sandra Murphy.

Old Business:

A. Moving America Forward Update

- The Bike Rodeo/Bike Hike event held Saturday, May 15. Fantastic occasion, only problem was the disappointing attendance. Kristen Maiden did a phenomenal job orchestrating the rodeo event with Glendale and Reading. Kristen arranged for safety course, helmet sales, free food (Vonderhaar's Catering), and 2 bikes were given away!! Also, kudos to Stiney,

Mary Lou Isaac, Sandra Murphy, David Nichols and the 2 members of Evendale police (Kevin Akers and Bill Lantry) for assistance. The Bike Hike to Gorman was also a lot of fun and much was learned from the presentation by Sandra at the overlook.

- The very successful Bike Stakeholders meeting was held on April 29th . The meeting was well attended (about thirty people). Great presentations by Stiney, Gus, Jason. The small group discussions generated a lot of helpful feedback and advice relative to the goals and objectives of the Bike Master Plan. Lots of enthusiasm for Evendale biking in general, encouragement from stakeholders to give attention to safety and make Mill Creek trail a priority. The results of the stakeholders meeting are currently being processed by URS.
- The pilot bike survey was a success. We received 19 of 50 surveys back (38% return rate). Only 1 person felt that Evendale biking was not important. 100% of respondents classified bike usage as recreational and many indicated the Recreation Center as a frequent destination. Some commented that the ride to the center is dangerous. Concerns were raised about getting out of the Park Hills subdivision; however a traffic survey still indicates not enough cars come out of the subdivision to warrant a traffic light be placed there. The pilot survey has been improved for mass distribution. The survey will be going out in the newsletters, with copies available in the recreation facilities for people to fill out on the spot. The results from the survey will be taken to the council committee; then, hopefully, phase two will begin.
- Mill Creek Greenway Trail/Tiger II stimulus opportunity has, or will, bring a bicycle trail to just south of Reading. The hope is to continue using this opportunity to continue the trail north. The CACC meeting has been postponed until June due to the relative urgency of this project.
- Standardized ordinances is a key focus of the group at this time. For example, Reading's current ordinance does not permit bicycle riding on city sidewalks; but Evendale does allow this. Blue Ash is currently working on trails to the new center being constructed at the Blue Ash airport.
- Thanks to Lifestyle Essentials for spotlighting Bike Month on their bulletin board! Great display and very timely.

B. Lifestyle Report

- Stiney commented on the staff and how they continue to work, clean, and assist patrons.

Director's Report:

- Seasonal employee ordinance passed at the recent council meeting. This ordinance included hiring Alicia as a Fun in the Sun camp counselor.
- The pool is up and running; including the new boiler.
- Swim team begins after school practice on Monday, May 24th.

Phi Lambda Pi Report:

- It was nice to have the points listing in the packets. Congratulations to Alicia for a year well done; and for all of her community involvement.
- The Phi Lambda Pi Concession Stand opens Saturday, May 29th. Five new kids are joining the returning nine Phi members.

- Eight girls from Phi volunteered at the Griffin Preserve Clean Up Day. A lot of work was accomplished. Stiney passed along the Griffin Preserve Committee thank you for all of Phi's hard work that day.
- The teen group is looking at new projects for the upcoming year, such as volunteering at Habitat for Humanity or an adopt-a-child program. They are also considering team building trips, and maybe a camping trip.
- Myrtle Beach trip takes place July 24 - 29th.
- Reviewing the 2009-2010 Phi points, 22 new members achieved 25 points or more this year; and thirty members achieved 75 points or more. Commission would like to see the points and award listing added to the Phi board in the hallway. Congratulations to Zach Rust for receiving all three (Phi, Lambda, and Pi) awards. This is believed to be a first in the history of the program.
- The group may collaborate with Blue Ash to help create a "Phi" style teen group in Blue Ash. Phi was created by Sheldon Bentley fifty years ago and, to this day, remains unique in Ohio, and maybe even the country .
- Phi is selling Fire House Chili Lunch tickets again this year. They are \$4.00 each. Lunch is Wednesday, June 9th from 11:00am-1:00pm.

Open Discussion:

- Kristen Maiden nominated Gus Janszen for OPRA Ohio Coach of the Year Award. He made the final four, but did not win the award. Congratulations to Gus for making the final four. When Gus was made aware of the nomination, he said he was flattered; but he already feels appreciated by the players, parents, and Kristen. He doesn't need anything more than that.
- Tennis lessons had one glitch when the newly hired youth instructor decided not to accept the job after all. The weather is also being uncooperative.
- Let's plan on hosting another bike rodeo next year. Reconsider the timing to avoid the soccer season, or at least when games are scheduled away; maybe an evening or after the school year ends would be better. How about a Friday or Saturday evening?

Motion to adjourn made at 8:37am by Stiney Vonderhaar; seconded by John Doviak. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne Thole
Administrative Secretary