

City of Bowling Green, Ohio

Parks & Recreation Board

March 23, 2021 Via Zoom & In Person at the Veterans Building

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Call to Order

Chair Jodi Anderson (7:00 PM)

Attendance

Cheryl Witt

- *Jodi Anderson, Cal Bowers, Jeff Crawford, Bryan Hartzler, Monique Rosati, Phil Simmons and Robin Veitch*
- *Absent: Linda Cubberley and Cale Hover*

Approval of January 26, 2021 Minutes **Chair Jodi Anderson**

- *Unanimous approval on a motion by Jeff Crawford and a second by Cal Bowers.*

Correspondence

Kristin Otley

- *No correspondence at this time.*

Chairpersons Report

Chair Jodi Anderson

- *Nice to be able to have a meeting in person.*

Old Business

- *No old business at this time.*

New Business

- Pool Capacity Protocol **Kristin Otley**
 - *Two options were presented to the Park Board to open the pool for the 2021 season. Plan is to open the pool Memorial Day Weekend at half capacity (50%) which would be 325 people in the gates at a time. We need to be able to allow for social distancing. Kristin is hopeful that it will only be for a limited time frame that the pool will be operating at 50% capacity.*
 - *The BGPR Foundation has approved creating a designated line item to help kids pay for pool passes who cannot afford to*

New Business, continued:

do so. They will be asking the community to donate to this cause. The department has a protocol in place where Bowling Green Residents (within City Limits) can get 50% off of their pool pass with documentation showing that they receive service through the WC Department of Job & Family Services. The Foundation would then pick up the remainder of the pass price for the student if the family could not afford it

- *Option A: Open to Residents Only*
 - *Daily Admissions would be problematic with this option. Daily admissions do not scan in/out.*
 - *This would potentially separate kids from their friends as some of the BGCS District are not City Residents.*
- *Option B: Open to Season Passholders Only*
 - *BGPR would be able to track capacity and would also capture contact tracing information if needed as passholders scan in/out.*

After a round table discussion on the options Jeff Crawford made a motion to approve Option B, Phil Simmons seconded and this option was unanimously approved. Jeff Crawford thanked Kristin for thinking of the kids with financial needs and is happy that they will have a way to be able to use the pool.

- *BGPR will be planning "Pool Pass Days" where people can come in and purchase their pool pass. Those who come in and purchase their pass before the pool opens will receive 5 guest passes that they can use for family/friends to come enjoy the pool with them.*

BGPR Foundation Board Report

Chair Jodi Anderson

- *Membership Drive is underway, please consider joining the Foundation when you get the information in the mail. Updates are being done on the giving and memorials information. Wine & Cheese is on the calendar for September 24, 2021 and the new fundraiser the BG Brew Fest will be November 6, 2021.*

BGPR Directors Report

Kristin Otley

- Master Plan Update/Recreational Needs Update
 - *A copy of the survey was handed out to the Park Board Members. They all have been mailed to a random sample of 2,500 registered voters in Bowling Green. We are looking forward to having valid, statistical data that we will use for planning. Our current Master Plan goes through 2021. Dr. Shannon Orr has agreed to facilitate a strategic planning session with the Park Board & Foundation Board. We hope to be able to do this in person. More information to come on when we can get that scheduled. A 30% return of surveys would be great. There is a coupon in the mailing that can be sent back with the survey that enters the person in a drawing for a \$100.00 BGPR gift certificate.*
- Levy
 - *Core levy committee is being formed. Cal Bowers will be the Park Board liaison, Jenny Swope will be the Foundation liaison and Sandy Rowland will be the Council liaison. Waiting to hear back from a few others that were contacted. Decision will need to be made on whether it will be a renewal or a new amount. The Park Board will approve the recommendation from the committee and then it goes to Council.*
- Summer Hiring
 - *We are hiring seasonal staff for the Summer. If you know anyone that needs a job have them check the City's website to apply. To work at the pool, you must be 16 and older for all other positions you must be 18 and older. Kristin shared a hand out from NRPA about how many times working in a Parks & Recreation Department is a first-time job for Youth.*

Coordinators Reports

- *Chris Gajewicz: Wintergarden and Simpson have been very full with people walking and enjoying nature. We have had different day cares come and play out front of Wintergarden. Working on a QR code that will allow people to donate through the Foundations PayPal page from the parks. Trying to reach another type of audience and enable them to give in a way that suits them. Bird Walks will start in April.*

Coordinator's Report, continued:

Work has been done to the new acreage, such as: mowing and installing bluebird and kestrel boxes. The two staff who have been working at Wintergarden will be starting at Simpson next week to help with all the work that will be coming up as the weather warms.

- *Ivan Kovacevic: The leprechaun scavenger hunt was a big hit out at Wintergarden. The next scavenger hunt will be City wide and the group has to solve riddles in order to find the eggs hidden around the City. WC Health Department held a vaccine clinic at the TACC and there were about 1,000 people that came through for vaccines. Summer planning is underway. We put together parent/child date night boxes for families to enjoy crafts, food and fun at home. These took place of the dances that we usually have. Sports Skills Clinics are ongoing. Look for T-ball and Coach Pitch Softball coming up among other fun things we can offer within the protocols and practices for COVID-19.*

Lobby Visitation

- *Mayor Aspacher asked Chris Gajewicz if there are any volunteer opportunities at Simpson Garden Park and Chris said that there are and he can be contacted via email about this.*
- *Councilmember Sandy Rowland said how nice it is to see so many people out walking and enjoying the parks.*
- *Kristin said she was out at Wintergarden with her youngest daughter for the leprechaun hunt and it was really fun and the trails were hopping!*
- *Jeff Crawford asked if BGPR is renting facilities and Kristin responded that we are and have been. Facilities are limited to 50% capacity at this time. Jeff wondered how the COVID mandates were enforced and Kristin explained that renters are required to sign an addendum to their rental agreement stating that they will follow all the COVID protocols and practices that are in place at the time of their rental.*

Adjourn

- *Meeting adjourned by Jodi Anderson on a motion from Phil Simmons and a second by Bryan Hartzler at 8:00PM.*

Respectfully Submitted by Cheryl Witt on March 24, 2021



Jodi Anderson, Chair

4/27/21
Date

Next Meeting: April 27, 2021 @ 7:00PM