



**CITY OF TWINSBURG, OHIO
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

June 26, 2024

6:30pm

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:33pm

ROLL CALL/INVOCATION

Present: Tom Weirich, Robert Coleman, David Kleinman, Julie Miller, Doug McLaughlin
Michele Harmel, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director and Daisy Walker, Council
Representative

SWEARING IN NEW MEMBERS: Daisy Walker presented the oath of office and swore in new Commission member, David Kleinman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion presented to approve the minutes from *the last* Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

- a. Julie Miller – correction to minutes from April 25 meeting. Julie did not specifically request a tree lighting, she noticed a social media presence of citizens of Twinsburg requesting a tree lighting.
- b. Correction to change Robert Coleman’s last name reflected incorrectly as Vice-Chairperson. Name to read Robert Coleman, not Robert Peltz.

Motion was seconded and minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public participation

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Deborah Peltz – Absent. Report was given by Robert Coleman in conjunction with his report.

Julie Miller – The pickleball community thanks Jennifer and the City for the clean-up and addition of benches at the Glenmeadow courts. Requested a court roller to dry pickleball courts after rain. At the time of the meeting, a roller had been ordered but not yet delivered to the courts.

Robert Coleman – Deb and Robert were on a trail in Center Valley Park and noticed our Service Department out doing park maintenance. He commended the team for their hard work maintaining our parks and trails. Robert also noticed how rough the paved trail was, especially going north from Dodge Intermediate School. He is looking for an update from the Engineering Department regarding any plans for the path and assessment of that particular section of paved trail, so that it is repaired/maintained before the trail needs to be totally shut down for repairs. Robert also inquired about the bridge replacement at East Idlewood. Finally, Robert reported on the pollinator gardens. Pollinator gardens save on mowing cost, equipment, and upkeep. Robert mentioned a group in Twinsburg that has formed with the general interest in a pollinator meadow. Dr. Walker discussed grant writing as a way to solicit funding for the project.

Tom Weirich – looking for an update regarding Glen Chamberlin Park. Additionally, noted that compared to other communities, Twinsburg’s baseball fields are kept in great condition. Discussion from Dr. Walker and

Robert Coleman regarding the specialized clay vs. dirt and upkeep with the outfields. Also noted that the Service Department does a fantastic job as well as collaboration with the schools.

Doug McLaughlin – inquired about a location to store notes, documents, etc. for commission. Michele confirmed that all agenda and minutes are posted on the city’s website.

Doug also consulted citizens regarding what they would like to see in our parks. Reports include a glowing night sports event (volleyball, basketball, baseball, golf, Frisbee, etc.), an immersive art festival (similar to Asian Lantern Festival at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo) with artists, exhibits, and activities for children, storybook tour of children’s books at Liberty Park, visually interesting landscapes (light garden/trees, dreamscape tunnel, etc) to attract younger audiences.

David Kleinman – no report

Michele Harmel, on behalf of Jennifer Betenson – Update on the pollinator gardens included discussions with city gardener and Deb Peltz on location size, upkeep, etc. Possible locations include Liberty Park, Glenmeadow Park and Glen Chamberlin Park. Deb Peltz hopes to have a plan by August meeting to narrow down project responsibilities and partnerships. In addition to the pollinator gardens, Jennifer was contacted by the garden club who is interested in volunteering. They are looking to have a small presentation at the August meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Pollinator gardens – see new business reports, as Robert and Michele’s report included the ongoing pollinator garden discussion.

Rock the Park – Julie Miller inquired about the type of volunteers that are needed for the concerts. David informed her of the volunteer opportunities.

Parks & Recreation month – David inquired about Parks & Recreation month communication. Michele explained that emails and social media posts will be used for communications for activities and contests. Michele also explained that there will be a proclamation from Mayor Scaffide celebrating Parks & Recreation month at the July 9 City Council meeting. Julie requested that Parks & Recreation Commission members are tagged in event postings on social media.

NEW BUSINESS

Michele reported on the Glen Chamberlin park renovations. Park restrooms are still under construction and set to be completed soon. The playground renovations are nearly complete and amphitheater spectator area is complete and looks great.

Michele reported that the grant for the two shelter replacements, benches, trash cans and bridge replacement is still being reviewed and a decision will be made in the coming months.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Motion presented to excuse absent member Deborah Peltz.

Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be scheduled for August 22, 2024 at 6:30pm in Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion presented to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded.

The meeting was adjourned.