

**City of Wyoming
Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 1, 2016**

Members present: Howard Krueger, Ralph Boss, Dan Gordon, Holly Emch, Tim Marty, and Scott Boster.

Staff members present: Rachel Leininger – Director of Recreation and Citizen Engagement

Others Present:

Citizen Participation:

Call to Order:

Mr. Marty called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the May minutes as was made by Mr. Boss second by Mr. Boster. All ayes.

Reports:

- City Council – none.
- Administration – Ms. Leininger reported that the renovation of the Recreation Center is in full swing. She stated that demolition and excavation work has continued in the upstairs of the building, and holes for windows are expected to be cut next week. She also reported that construction crews built a wall to partition off the main hall upstairs, and a small front desk area has remained open just inside the main entrance so that patrons can access the basement area and fitness center using the elevator. Ms. Leininger also stated that Studio A was shut down due to plumbing work for the new locker rooms upstairs, is expected to be closed for approximately three weeks, but that classes have been relocated and will continue to meet. Most classes have been relocated to the Civic Center, Studio B, or Oak Gym so there is minimal impact. She stated that the fitness center is expected to remain open during construction. Ms. Leininger also noted that continued pavement and excavation work will keep the hike/bike trail closed due to safety concerns. Mr. Boss asked when the hike/bike trail is expected to reopen. Ms. Leininger replied that the hike/bike trail is expected to reopen on September 24, 2016. Mr. Boss asked if Ms. Leininger had noticed an increase in complaints since construction had started, and what those complaints were. Ms. Leininger replied that there had not been really any complaints as most patrons are very excited to see the renovation happen, but the most recent complaint had been that the elevator is slow. Ms. Leininger showed commission members the renovation plans, explaining the plans

for phase one of the project which would include renovations to the lobby and offices, addition of locker rooms and bathrooms upstairs, and a new fitness center with windows on the front and sides of the building. Ms. Leininger stated that the first floor of the Recreation Center is expected to reopen in late November/early December. Ms. Leininger stated phase two, which focuses on the basement area, is expected to be completed by February. Mr. Krueger asked about the addition of a display cabinet for trophies in the new layout. Ms. Leininger commented that there is a display case in the plans, but that that wall was being reconfigured due to some unknown piping located in a closet. Mr. Boss asked what type of congestion is expected with the drop off for camp on the back of the building, and what type of signage will be used as the road is near the hike/bike trail. Ms. Leininger replied that based on drop off patterns of the past few years, it is not expected to become over congested as drop offs are typically spread out over a couple of hours. She stated that she didn't know the specifics regarding signage along the hike/bike trail, but that is something that she would get more information on.

- School Board – Mr. Boster reported that fall sports are up and running, and that the football team had a big victory Saturday morning. He noted that football plays at Taft this Friday and has a home game on 9/9/16 against McNick. He also reported that girls' soccer was undefeated. Mr. Booster stated booster memberships are up this year and that they raised an additional \$3000 as compared to last year. Mr. Boster also announced that Faye Auditorium was up and running, and that the formal dedication is on 9/11/16 at 4:30pm.
- Greenways Committee – Mr. Boss reported that Greenways Committee met this month, and they discussed the impact of the extension of the hike/bike trail on the community gardens. Mr. Boss stated that Lynn Tetley was putting together a focus group and that he would be serving on that group to discuss the impact.
- Chairperson – Mr. Marty read aloud a NextDoor post from August 28 about the Wyoming Family Aquatic Center from member Gayle Howard, and he complimented the great service of the pool staff.

"I know we still have one more weekend of pool enjoyment left, but I just wanted to say a big thank you to all the staff, especially manager Brian Pitman for a great pool season! I have brought several friends and family from other communities and cities to our pool this summer and everyone says the same thing, "you are so lucky to have such a great community pool!" Don't I know it, it is well run, beautiful and friendly staff and guards. Brian is very accommodating and works hard to keep our pool in great shape. Thanks so much to all!!

Huge thanks to Betsy and Abby Cassada for the best hydro-fit season ever! All of you have made our summers even more special to look forward to. Can't wait to see you all next year!!! We ARE so lucky to have a community pool like this one!"

- **Business:**
- Commission Member Responsibility Areas:
 - Youth Sports (Dan Gordon): none.

- Adult Sports/Recreation & Senior Activities (Howard Krueger): Mr. Krueger reported that he talked with Bryan Hill on the follow up of men's softball, and that Ms. Leininger will send out a post season survey. Mr. Krueger noted that complaints had been of the substitution of non-paying players particularly at tournament time, and that his suggestion had been to give rosters to umpire to verify players. He noted that he had not heard complaints this season. Mr. Krueger also noted that there were a variety of senior seminars available through UC Health. Ms. Leininger also stated that the new SilverSneakers classes would be starting next week.
- Facilities, Parks & Grounds (Ralph Boss): none.
- Programs, Recreation & Fitness (Beth Miller): none—absent.
- Special Events (Stephanie Hass/Holly Emch): Ms. Emch reported that she had some ideas regarding the Holiday Celebration in December. Ms. Leininger stated that she would connect Ms. Emch to Laurie Rusnak who coordinates all city events.
- Other:
 1. Mr. Gordon shared an interesting candlepin bowling article from Cincinnati Magazine where the Wyoming Civic Center was noted. He stated the article can be found online at <http://www.cincinnati.com/citywiseblog/heck-candlepin-bowling/>.
 2. Mr. Boster asked if there was anything to be done to address the condition of the tennis courts near the high school. He stated that he was very unhappy with the cracking of the courts, and that the conditions of the courts were not up to Wyoming standards. He also noted that the fence was bent so that no key was required, and that many of the nets were not tied to eye hooks at the bottom. Ms. Leininger stated that the courts were pretty recently resurfaced and that it was her understanding from Terry Huxel that the only way to remove the cracking of the courts would be to replace them completely. Ms. Leininger stated that it had been some time since it was discussed, so she would revisit the topic with Terry Huxel to be sure the status had not changed. Ms. Leininger stated that she would follow up with Terry Huxel and get back with Mr. Boster.
 3. Ms. Emch asked if there were ever a need for preschool programs other than toddler open gym. Ms. Leininger stated that once the facility renovations were complete there would be space for a variety of programs. Ms. Emch stated that she would be happy to provide some ideas or volunteer for programs, particularly those that provided artistic opportunities. Ms. Leininger said to send her any ideas that she may have.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Leininger