

# Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Minutes of the meeting of February 17, 2005

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Stobart, Chairman  
Elaine Castagno  
Pat Duncan  
Tanny Hanahan  
Jeff Wilbert

GUESTS PRESENT: John Van Gorden, Director  
Kim Vogel, Recreation Coordinator  
Lee Farmer, Intern

The Pittsburg Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met on Thursday, February 17, 2005 at 4:03 pm in Lincoln Center. Bill Stobart called the meeting to order with five (5) members present.

**The first order of business** was the approval of the minutes from the January 13, 2005 meeting. Duncan noted that the next meeting date needed changed in the minutes. With no further corrections the minutes were approved.

**The second order of business** was to review the activity report for January. Mrs. Vogel went through the report and noted that toddler time, the free activity from 9:00 – 11:00 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays, is still well attend. Mrs. Vogel also mentioned that the senior citizens club had been changed to every other week with an option for seniors to come walk in Lincoln Center on the opposite weeks.

## Items from the floor:

- I. Wilbert asked about the NRPA card that he received in the mail. Mrs. Vogel explained that the Parks Department renewed their membership and the members of our board are included in that membership.
- II. Duncan asked if there were going to be lights at the playground at Deramus Park. Mr. Van Gorden said that we have talked to KG&E they may put in lights.
- III. Stobart said that the nets were off the baskets at Leffler Park and that the lines need repainted. Wilbert said that some lights are out at Leffler. Mr. Van Gorden said that Toby had been out to Leffler so he would check with him to see if they were back on. Wilbert mentioned that the Rotary Club may be able to assist with lighting.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Handicapped Equipment for Parks** Mr. Van Gorden said that he was working with Deena Hallacy and Mark Turnbull to get grants for handicapped equipment for the parks.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration** Mr. Van Gorden said that we met with Lance Saylor and with Kris Kelly about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and what the different stations could do to help us with the event. Mr. Saylor suggested a VIP area at the golf course where businesses would donate on thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) and get 10 spots to sit and watch the fireworks and dinner. Mr. Saylor also mentioned that he would help sponsor a karaoke contest at the band dome on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Castagno asked how much the fireworks cost and Mr. Van Gorden replied fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000.00). Wilbert suggested setting out fireworks cans for people to donate at different businesses or asking channel 6 for sponsorship. Castagno suggested sending out a letter and Mr. Van Gorden said that is what we have done in the past and we have raised four to five thousand dollars that way. Mr. Van Gorden asked if anyone would like to be on a task force to go out and help get sponsorships for the event, no one volunteered. Stobart mentioned that the par 3 tournament was confusing because some holes were closest to the pin and some were longest putt, there was no structure and he said it would be less confusing if they were all the same or if every other one was the same.

**23<sup>rd</sup> Street** Mr. Van Gorden asked if anyone had given the area more thought and if it is worth pursuing. Stobart said that his students had to come up with a plan by the end of the semester. Duncan suggested making a fishing pond out of the area. Wilbert suggested maybe using the area as a practice area if it didn't fill with water. Mr. Van Gorden mentioned that a gentleman would like to come to the next meeting and talk about using the area as a natural habitat. Castagno said that wild flowers or native flowers might be good there.

**Four Oaks Golf Course** Mr. Van Gorden gave everyone time to look over his response to the letter to the editor and he mentioned that the commissioners and the city manager approved the letter before he sent it. He noted that in Jeff Leverenz and Jon Kindelsparger have contracts with the city to play golf for free but we are having a problem with other individuals not paying at the course. Mr. Van Gorden said that there had been some questions about cutting greens but you can't do that while it's wet. Stobart said that he thought the course looked pretty good and that Mr. Van Gorden was correct about being able to cut greens in the winter. Mr. Van Gorden said that if anyone would like to discuss the situation at the golf course in more detail he would be glad to go into private session and do so. Wilbert thanked Mr. Van Gorden for bringing him a copy of the response, which cleared up some of the questions he had from the letter to the editor.