



CITY OF GAHANNA

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

TO: Gahanna City Council
Thomas R. Kneeland, Mayor

FROM: Jeff Barr, Deputy Director, Department of Parks & Recreation

DATE: November 22, 2016

RE: Parks & Recreation - Report to Council for Monday, November 28, 2016

ACTION ITEMS:

Resolution CFP Grant Process

Action Item #1

We are requesting a resolution of support from Council and permission for the Mayor to submit and sign all documents for application and contracts and acceptance, if awarded; and for authorization for the Finance Director to establish a special fund for the grant, if awarded, from the USDA Forest Service's Community Forest Program (CFP) Grant.

The grant would help fund purchase of the land located just south of the Golf Course and east of the Mifflin Township Cemetery along the Big Walnut Creek. In alignment with the Go Forward Gahanna Strategic Plan, the purchase of this property will be part of the plan for waterway development, use and promotion for Gahanna residents. Acquiring this land will ensure protection of the Big Walnut Creek corridor, provide educational and programming opportunities for the public, keep it in its natural state as a small urban forest, and protect the existing wetland.

This is a matching grant. Included in 2017 Proposed Budget is appropriate funding to complete the purchase in a two year timeline. If the grant is awarded it would offset the City's financial commitment.

COUNCIL UPDATES

Nothing at this time

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Holiday Character Breakfast
Saturday, December 10, 8am-12pm
Centerpoint Church, 620 McCutcheon Rd.

Join Gahanna Parks & Recreation's Holiday Happenings

Be sure and stroll through Creekside Plaza and enjoy the holiday lights and the holiday houses at Gahanna Historical Society Settlement.

Sensory Friendly Visit with Santa Claus

Santa and his helpers are offering this special event for children and their families who may need a more relaxed environment with less sensory input. Santa and his elves are ready to meet your child however your child is most comfortable. The Herb Center has accessibility for wheelchairs or limited mobility. A limited number of appointments available. This program is intended for students with special needs and their families. Gahanna residents and school students will have priority registration through November 11. Open registration beginning November 12. Pre-registration is required.

Sun Dec 4 1-3pm

Sun Dec 11 4-6pm

RDR/NR: \$5/\$7

Visit with Santa at the Herb Center!

Meet the jolly old elf, Santa Claus! Santa is taking time out of his busy toy-making season to talk with the little ones about visions of sugar plums, toy soldiers and ponies! As you walk up to the decorated North Pole Annex (the Ohio Herb Education Center) you will be greeted by Santa's elves and helpers that will guide you to the letter writing station. You will then get to sit on Santa's knee and pose for a special keepsake photo. Then step into Mrs. Claus' parlor for special make & take crafts – Santa's Favorite Hot Chocolate Mix; Everything Nice Herbal Sugar; and Mrs. Claus' Peppermint Bath Blend!

All ages are welcome.

Day	Date	Time
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Sat	Dec 3	9am-1pm
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Sat	Dec 10	9am-1pm
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Sat	Dec 17	9am-1pm
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RDR/NR: \$5 per craft/photo or 3 items for \$12