



CITY OF GAHANNA

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

TO: Gahanna City Council
Thomas R. Kneeland, Mayor

FROM: Troy Euton, Director, Department of Parks & Recreation

DATE: July 21, 2016

RE: Parks & Recreation - Report to Council for Monday, July 25, 2016

ACTION ITEMS:

Item #1 – McCutcheon Rd Park

Ordinance – McCutcheon Rd Park

We are requesting an ordinance to appropriate \$200,000 from account 327.431.5596, Park Fees Capital Projects/Improvements, and \$100,000 from account 328.431.5596, Park In Lieu of Fees Fund Capital Projects/Improvements for the development of McCutcheon Road Park.

As you recall we are assembling multiple funding sources to create the funding for a Phase I construction of McCutcheon Road Park. We were awarded \$250,000 from the FY 16-17 State Capital Budget; we have applied for a Natureworks Grant for \$100,000; the Gahanna P&R Foundations has pledged a minimum of \$25,000 and there are many more asks in the pipeline. Our goal is to raise \$800,000 by the end of the year to effectively plan for a 2017 build of the first phase.

We have had two public meetings and utilized open town hall to gain input from the community on this project. Attached is a preliminary master plan developed internally from the community input. We will be hosting another public meeting this fall to present some alternative master plan concepts to the community for feedback to assist in the development of our final master plan.

We will also be testing ideas for a new name for this park this fall as we continue to hear McCutcheon Road Park isn't a good name for it, or as one 12 year old public planning meeting participant put it, "it's stupid!"

Item #2 – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant, Recreational Trail Program Grant and Natureworks Grant.

Resolution – Establish Capital Projects Fund

We are requesting a resolution to authorize the Finance Director to establish a capital projects fund for the State's Community Recreation Program Grant and if awarded, the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant, Recreational Trail Program Grant and Natureworks Grant.

These funds will need to be established as directed by the State Auditor's Representatives to properly account for the funds we may receive from these grant programs.

Resolution – for Grants

If the City is awarded the clean Ohio Trails Grant, Recreational Trails Program Grant and Natureworks Grant, we are requesting a resolution that the city agrees to obligate the funds required to complete the proposed projects and become eligible for reimbursement under the terms and conditions of the grants.

In past Clean Ohio Trail Fund and Recreational Trail Fund grant applications, our resolution has included the language "the city will obligate the funds for the project if awarded the grant." Our resolutions (RES. 0002 and 0003 – 2016) passed on February 16, 2016 did not include this exact language. The grant administrator at ODNR has sent a grant checklist with a couple of missing items to make our grant complete. This item is on the list.

Our preliminary estimate for this section of trail is \$2.176 million dollars (see attached as included in our grant application on April 1st). The grant has a maximum award of \$850,000 which we hope to achieve. We have \$200,000 in our 2016 appropriations to allocate toward the project. This would leave a delta of \$1.1 million that we would need to allocate in our 2017 project to close the gap to build this project.

The Big Walnut Trail is the critical mainline trail to serve our community both internally and for regional connection as outlined in our Go Forward Gahanna strategic plan and the Parks & Recreation Master Plans (2006 and 2015). See attached trail map; reference section 4, yellow lined alternative.

Item #3 – Creekside Restoration Study

Ordinance – Creekside Restoration Study - OHM

We are requesting an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with OHM for a Restoration and Use Planning Study in the amount of \$29,250.00 from account 101.359.5249 Creekside Contract Services.

This study will determine how to begin and phase the restoration and use of the Creekside plaza areas of Creekside Park. The results of this study will allow for proper scope development for restoration construction plans and phasing, as well as financial budgeting parameters to complete the restoration.

Motion Resolution – transfer funds

We are requesting a Motion Resolution to transfer funds from account 101.359.5596 Creekside Capital to 101.359.5249 Creekside Contract Services in the amount of \$29,250 for a Restoration and Use Planning Study.

These funds will be used to fund the study outlined in item #4 of this report. The results of this study will allow for proper scope development for restoration construction plans and phasing, as

well as financial budgeting parameters to complete the restoration. See the proposal attached with the sister ordinance to this resolution for all the details.

COUNCIL UPDATES

Nothing at this time

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Creekside Live Creekside Rotary Stage

Creekside comes alive the 2nd & 4th Friday's June-August. Join us for a summer concert series featuring summer entertainment throughout the Creekside District headlined by popular bands from Central Ohio. The event brings the community together celebrating the heart of Gahanna, the Creekside District. Come early and eat at one of our many local restaurants. Onsite beverage sales available supported by the Gahanna parks & Recreation Foundation, net proceeds support the Foundation's focus on making Gahanna a great place to live, work and play.

August 12 6pm - Hebdo (Adventure Folk)
7:30pm - Reaganomics (80's Party Rock)

August 26 6pm - Fox N Hounds (Newgrass)
7:30pm - Soul Kitch'n (Funk & Soul)

Aquatics

Gahanna Swimming Pool
Family Hotdog Nights
Sundays - July 31
Time: 4-8pm
\$6/person or \$20/household
\$1 hotdogs, music and games
Members are free!

Hunters Ridge Pool
Ice Cream Nights
Tuesdays - May 31-Aug 30
\$6/person or \$20/household
\$1 ice cream, music and games
Members are free!

Herb Center Opportunities

Herb Walks Dates: Friday, July 29, and August 26 Time: 5:30-6:30p
Beneficial herbs and plants are all around us, and often overlooked as simply "weeds." Join us on a walk in and around the Parks of Gahanna. Take home the knowledge of what you may be able to discover growing in your back yard! Arrive in comfortable shoes and be prepared to venture on foot around Gahanna and Creekside. Also, discuss proper wild-crafting etiquette. Dress for the weather. Walk begins promptly at start time.
Instructor: Herb Center Staff or Special Guest
Cost: \$10 Gahanna Resident Rate: \$8

Preserving the Seasonal Harvest

Dates: Wednesday, July 6, 10a-12p (SOLD OUT) or Saturday, August 13, 10:00a-12:00p
The harvest season is upon us! Join Herb Center staff as we demonstrate harvesting and preserving techniques. Each session will also feature a specific herbal preservation technique, such as sage bundling, herbal honey or making herbal vinegar. These sessions are very hands-on. Participants spend time in the garden and in the drying shed processing freshly harvested herbs with Herb Center Staff. Arrive dressed for the weather and prepared to use your hands in the garden. Instructor: Herb Center Staff
Cost: \$7 Gahanna Resident Rate: \$5

Herb Center Intensives Information Session

Date: Tuesday, August 9 6:30pm

If you are considering one of our intensive series classes (Gahanna Herb Group and Fundamentals of Home Herbalism) but are unsure which one is the best fit for you, consider

attending our free information session. We will discuss the details of each program, answer questions and meet instructors and past participants. No registration required. Begins promptly at 6:30pm at the Ohio Herb Education Center.

Geroux Garden Tour Date: Saturday, September 3 10-11am

Enjoy a guided tour through the herb garden named after Gahanna's most influential herb enthusiast. Come see the new and exciting changes to the garden. The Geroux Herb Garden features a shaded wisteria arbor surrounded by a variety of herbs in different stages of development. Learn about companion plan combinations and native herb plantings.

9/11 Walk to Remember

Join us in a special memorial as we remember the events on this day, 15 years ago. The program will begin at 8:30am and the walk will start promptly at 8:46am. The walk includes interpretive signs along the Big Walnut Trail remembering the events of the morning. Donations will be accepted and provided to the National September 11 Memorial & Museum (www.national911memorial.org).

Senior Center opportunities

Program Registration Day Monday, September 12 from 8:30am-4:30pm
Location: Gahanna Senior Center

Senior Expo

September 14 from 10am – 3pm
Gahanna Senior Center

Join us for a day of everything Senior! This event will showcase guest speakers, complimentary classes, informational vendors, give-a-ways, food, music, and more? If you or a loved one are 55+ and want to learn more about services and activities that are offered in the area, please stop by the Senior Expo! All Gahanna residents & non-residents welcome?

Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation

Creekside Hops & Vines Fest

a beer and wine tasting event

Benefitting the Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation

Saturday, September 10, 6:30-10pm

Creekside Park & Plaza

Join the Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation for the 3rd annual Creekside Hops & Vines Fest on September 10 from 6:30-10:00pm for a tasting event that fundraises for your parks.

Tickets can be purchased on-line at: www.gahannapr.org

Tickets:

Early Bird: \$40

Regular Admission: \$45

At the Door: \$50