



City of Gahanna

Meeting Minutes

Parks & Recreation Board

200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

Jan Ross, Chair
Eric Miller, Vice Chair
Ken Shepherd, Secretary
Chrissy Kaminski
Harvey McCleskey
Kevin McGinn
Donna Simmons

Nichole Butler, Clerk

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

7:00 PM

Gahanna City Hall, Council Chambers

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Vice Chair, Eric Miller Called the April 16, 2025 meeting to order at 7:02 PM. The agenda was published on April 11, 2025

B. ROLL CALL

Staff in Attendance: Stephania Ferrell, Director of Parks and Recreation;
Nichole Butler, Clerk

Present: 5 - Chrissy Kaminski, Eric Miller, Donna Simmons, Ken Shepherd and Harvey McCleskey

Absent: 2 - Kevin McGinn and Jan Ross

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

PR25- Board Minutes 3.19.25

A motion was made by Shepherd, seconded by Simmons, that the Minutes be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Kaminski, Miller, Simmons, Shepherd and McCleskey

Absent: 2 - McGinn and Ross

D. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Director Ferrell requested a fee waiver for Gahanna Middle School East be added to the agenda under new business.

E. HEARING OF VISITORS

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**G. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS****H. NEW BUSINESS****Lincoln ES GMAC - Fee waiver**

Butler presented the fee waiver request from Lincoln Elementary for use of the Gahanna Mobile Activities Center (GMAC) on Monday May 19, 2025 for their 5th grade end of year celebration.

PR25- Lincoln ES GMAC fee waiver request

A motion was made by McCleskey, seconded by Simmons, to approve a full fee waiver for use of the GMAC by Lincoln Elementary School. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Kaminski, Miller, Simmons, Shepherd and McCleskey

Absent: 2 - McGinn and Ross

GMSE Fee Waiver- GMAC

Butler presented the fee waiver request from Gahanna Middle School East for use of the Gahanna Mobile Activities Center (GMAC) on Tuesday May 6, 2025 for their 8th Graders that cannot attend the class trip to Washington D.C.

PR-25 GMSE GMAC Fee Waiver

A motion was made by Kaminski, seconded by Simmons to approve a full fee waiver for use of the GMAC by Gahanna Middle School East. The motion carried the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Kaminski, Miller, Simmons, Shepherd and McCleskey

Absent: 2 - McGinn and Ross

I. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Miller stated he liked the new format of the Directors report. Director Ferrell stated that the new format presents visual representation of things going on in the department, with the intent to continue to share information and metrics. Ferrell stated that the new format will allow for sharing of qualitative as well as quantitative data. Ferrell praised Nichole Butler for her efforts in developing and formatting the report.

Ferrell highlighted the nine (9) locations for the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) devices are listed in the report. Ferrell stated that the new senior van was put into use officially on a senior outing to the Franklin Park Conservatory. Ferrell stated that this 15 passenger van is an upgrade to our previous vehicle and allows for easier access and larger headspace. Ferrell noted they received a lot of positive feedback regarding the new vehicle and ease of use. Ferrell stated to date, there are 289 aquatic memberships sold for 2025. Ferrell stated that Chris Simmons identified that in comparison to 2024, there have been 98 additional passes than last year at this time. Ferrell commended the marketing team with the City of Gahanna for a great job on marketing programs, events, memberships and the overall department.

Ferrell noted that the Eggs-hilarating Egg Hunt took place last weekend April 12 at Hannah Park.

Miller asked if the senior vehicle was wheelchair accessible. Ferrell stated the vehicle is not wheelchair accessible however provides better access than the previous vehicles. Simmons noted that she has ridden in the vans before and that they were difficult to enter. Ferrell stated that a second vehicle is also ordered to replace another 15 passenger van.

McCleskey asked if the AED devices were set on posts at the parks. Ferrell stated that depending on the park, they are in visible locations either mounted to a shelter house or somewhere accessible. Ferrell stated that the AED devices are housed in a case that once opened, activates the use. McCleskey stated that he previously volunteered for Gahanna Junior League Sports and they had a training with coaches and is concerned that if the coaches don't have training on the AED use that they may not be able to use them correctly. Ferrell stated the department shares that concern, and with the support of the Gahanna Parks and Recreation Foundation, the department is able to offer certification, at no cost, for up to 20 individuals per affiliate organization.

McCleskey asked if there were concerns about misuse or vandalism to these devices. Ferrell stated that there have already been some incidents to that nature and the department is investigating how best to manage and prevent these types of issues.

Kaminski was impressed on summer camp enrollment being completely full, and the information that 58% of camp staff from 2024. Ferrell stated to date, the departments seasonal staff positions are mostly full with over 200 seasonals being on-boarded.

Kaminski asked when the board might see the Aquatics Master Plan. Ferrell stated that the department received the draft report. Ferrell stated the P&R staff will meet with Brandstetter Carrol on April 25th to go over

the draft report and allow them to come up with a timeline for finalization. Ferrell stated that once there is a better understanding and an internal review, she will present the timeline. Ferrell noted that there was a conceptual image shared at the council meeting on Monday of this week.

PR25- Directors Report March 2025

J. COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. Bicycle & Trail Advisory Committee (BTAC)

ii. Gahanna Active Senior Advisory Committee (GASAC)

Simmons stated the next meeting will be on May 20, 2025 at 3:00 PM

PR-SR May Jun 2025 Spotlight

iii. Natural Resources Advisory Committee (NRAC)

K. POLL MEMBERS FOR COMMENT

Kaminski stated that she is looking forward to the summer. She noted that especially now it is important to have community events to bring everyone together and that the City of Gahanna does a great job hosting these events.

McCleskey commended Director Ferrell for the great job that her and her team are doing.

Simmons stated that Make Gahanna Yours is doing their litter clean up on Saturday April 19, 2025 from 9 am to 12 pm. meeting at Friendship Park and invited anyone to participate.

Miller stated that he attended the Gahanna Soccer Association board meeting in April. Miller noted that they have had a few rainouts with games and practices but most of their coaches are in place now and are off to a good start.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Nichole Butler
Clerk

*APPROVED by the Parks & Recreation Board, this
day of 2025.*

Eric Miller