

diane.

# TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY Parks Advisory Board May 27, 2025, 6:00 PM Minutes

### Chairman: Michael Smith

Council Members: Vice Chairman Matthew Waldron, Renee Cannon, Brandy King, Valerie VanOstenbridge

# **CALL TO ORDER**

Michael Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Michael Smith, Matt Waldron, Renee Cannon, Brandy King, Valerie VanOstenbridge

# **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Matt Waldron made a motion to approve the agenda, Brandy King seconded the motion, approved by all.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Valerie VanOstenBridge made a motion to approve the agenda, Matt Waldron seconded the motion, approved by all.

# PARTNER REPORTS

Renee Cannon reported that CCSA is done with their season. They will have the goals moved on Friday. They will have Fall sign ups in late July, practice will start in early August and games will start in late August with the season ending in late October.

Matt Waldron reported that softball is finishing up their regular season this week and next week. Tournaments will be June 13-15.

AC Clark reported that baseball has finished their season and will be practicing for all-stars.

### **PARKS REPORTS**

AC Clark reported that the parks department is working on getting everything ready for Summerfest.

He reported that he met with a bridge engineer last week to get documents and financials for the bridges to present to the council. 4 of the bridges we could do culverts or slopes with drive arounds, the other 2 bridges will need more work than the other 4 bridges.

We are waiting on Jennifer Noe to finish the re-write of the agreement with TDOT and the mayor can sign it then we can move forward with bidding it for quotes. Matt Waldron inquired if the bid specs were ready once the approval was signed, AC Clark said he would follow up with Kimberly Horne to make sure we have everything ready with the specs.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**2025-2026 Park Events** – There was a discussion about moving Music on Main to Spring (April 10, 2027) after this fall and placing Heritage Festival to the Fall starting in 2026. Mayor Greer wants to have an Arts Festival on May 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – 10am to 4pm. We will need a name for the festival as well.

**Farmers Market** – Renee Cannon reported there are 56 vendors signed up this season, she has had 5 or so want to sign up after the season signed up. There has been discussion about changing the time of the market on Saturday – she reported that she emailed the vendors and majority want to keep it at 9am and extend to 1pm.

**Food Trucks** – Renee Cannon reported that turn out has not been good rather it be on the food truck side or the public side. She suggested we don't do it in 2026, AC Clark also agreed with not doing it in 2026.

**Heritage Festival** – Valerie VanOstenbridge reported that she was pleased with the turn out of the last meeting, she had some questions from the sign up sheet. She asked about next steps. Michael Smith said we need to set a concrete date and then setup a sub-committee to help organize the day. Valerie VanOstenbridge will work on getting with some of the people who came to the meeting to see if they are interested in being on the committee. The group decided to do the first Saturday in October for this Festival, we will have the first festival 10/03/2026.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

John's Park Repairs – Michael Smith mentioned that some citizens came to the council meeting and said that they were not happy about some of the repairs that are not happening around the park. Matt Waldron said that there are several things that need to be done to the 4 fields and the fence, gates and fence capping around the field. Michael Smith wants to get a list and pricing for the repairs to see what we can do to fix the repairs and maintain the park.

**Community Garden** – Michael Smith wants to keep this on the table for Caldwell Park, Valerie VanOstenbridge said we do need water there for us to do this.

Valerie VanOstenbridge also found a company in Knoxville to inquire about trails on land or parks. She was able to get in touch with a lady who gave her information about 5 grants that Valerie is going to work on getting more information on and get the process started. She and Michael Smith are going to look into the grants.

**Lake** – Michael Smith would like for us to think of ways for us to use this lake for the community to use this until the city gets back to developing the park. We could do finishing tournaments for kids or glamping sites.

## OTHER

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Brandy King made a motion to adjourn at 8:00pm, Valerie VanOstenbridge seconded motion - Next meeting June 24<sup>th</sup>

Chairman Michael W. Smith

Recorded by Renee Cannon

Those with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting, should contact the ADA Coordinator at 615-792-6455, M-F 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The town will make reasonable accommodations for those persons.