



MINUTES
OXFORD RECREATION BOARD
JOINT MEETING AT LAROSA'S
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024 AT 11:30 AM

Call to Order

The Joint TRI and Oxford Recreation Board Meeting was called to order by Casey Wooddell on Wednesday, January 31, 2004 @ 11:30am.

Roll Call

TRI Board members in attendance: Doug Curry; Joe Wilhelm; Kris Winkler; Tom Holmes; Jim Squance; Rick Verst and Dan Purcell.

Recreation Board members in attendance: Craig Bennett; Adam Beissel; Jake Richardson; Jacob Young and Holli Hansel.

Absent: Alex French

Staff Members in attendance: Casey Wooddell and Deanna Barbour

Approval of Agenda

1. Approval of the agenda for the January 31, 2024 Oxford Recreation and TRI Board Joint meeting.

Approval of the Agenda for 1/31/2024

Motion to Approve:

(Voice Vote) 1st - Jacob Young 2nd - Jake Richardson

AYE # - 5

NAY # - 0

ABS # - 0

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the minutes from the December 11, 2023 Oxford Recreation Board meeting.

December 2023 and January 2024 minutes will be approved at the March Meeting.

Old Business

New Business

Mr. Wooddell listed off the 2024 goals City Council has for Parks and Recreation. Beginning with build a new dog park, replace the playground at Merry Day Park, work with GOBA, which will be hosted on the TRI grounds, Eclipse activities are getting bigger by the day with Butler County estimating around 700,000 people coming to the county for this event. Mr. Wooddell added Oxford is doing the most for this event on that weekend compared to other communities in Butler County. Ms. Hansel agreed stating she heard they are expecting a lot of guests.

Updates: Mr. Wooddell advised for Freedom Festival we are moving the parade this year. We are joining the Mason's Annual Car Show on Sunday, June 30. Show will be 10am - 4pm with the parade directly following at 5pm-6pm.

The Freedom Festival itself is still on July 3 at the Oxford Community Park. The Masons are considering donating money for the new shelter at the Aquatic Center to create an outdoor area off the back of the room for summer camp.

1. Report from the Talawanda Recreation, Inc. (TRI) Board of Directors regarding the potential new indoor community center project.

Introduction by TRI Board President Doug Curry.

New Vision for the new facility - Mr. Curry noted the original TRI Board got together for recreation purposes. Community members came together and wanted to provide for this need in the community and property was donated as a result. The current vision is to give a big upgrade to the facilities for the Talawanda District. Mr. Curry added the TRI Board is in the process of getting a booklet with pretty pictures put together that we can take to groups and people to show them our vision and hopefully gain their support for this endeavor.

Mr. Curry stated we are the two groups that can see the need and see the vision for what the community needs. This is the year to go to businesses and corporations and search for grants.

Mr. Verst said last year the senior citizen center were a key part of this growth but that has now changed. Mr. Wooddell added the new Senior Center Director Emily Liechty met with him because they are very interested in this opportunity but financially they are not able to do it without the same type of fundraising etc.

Mr. Curry anticipates the City will be involved with this eventually but we have to get the ball rolling first. Mr. Wooddell said the gyms have to be the main focus, anything above and beyond that would have to be discussed later.

Mr. Wooddell showed the example of a 3 court rendering of a new addition. This design includes the 3 court gym space we're looking for; including a concession area; community room; entrance; bathrooms and mezzanine. Mr. Wooddell also shared examples of other recreation facilities

Level MB has completed. Mr. Wooddell stated the general idea is the existing building will be renovated with the downstairs becoming primarily preschool and the existing upstairs gym becoming the new fitness area. Rough cost estimates range \$8-\$10 million.

Mr. Curry said the biggest challenge is getting the organization and structure going and getting this moving forward.

Mr. Young asked what percentage are we sitting at right now? Mr. Curry said 0%. Mr. Beissel asked what percentage do we have to be at to start the project? Mr. Curry noted a pretty high percentage. Mr. Young asked have we contacted anyone yet? Mr. Curry stated we haven't asked for the funding yet. Ms. Winkler said but we've planted the seed. Mr. Verst added one business who's interested said they definitely didn't want their competitor's name on the door.

Mr. Holmes stated we have history on our side and it's up to the community if this gets created. Mr. Young said have you thought about having your own booth at community events to show what a new community center could be. Mr. Curry stated once we have the structure in place and the materials we want as many people involved as possible. Ms. Winkler added we've had articles in the Oxford Press done with Bob Ratterman over the past year to get the word out there.

Ms. Morrish noted we have a whole new generation in the community that doesn't have the background or history of why the TRI is doing what it's doing.

Mr. Beissel stated there may be opportunities available if you get in touch with the correct people to write grants. Mr. Bennett added such as a co-op program, maybe Miami partnership with a co-op possible.

Ms. Winkler talked about forming another collaboration board with this group and possibly the Senior Center. Mr. Wooddell said Emily Liechty (Senior Center Director) and Edna Southard (Senior Center Board President) are very interested in the collaboration.

2. Appointment of Board positions for 2024

Recreation Board Term limits

Craig Bennett - June 2024

Holli Hansel - June 2024

Jake Richardson - June 2024

Vote for positions

Ms. Hansel nominated Adam Beissel for Recreation Board Chair. Adam declined and nominated Jacob Young for Recreation Board Chair.

Motion for Jacob Young to be Recreation Board Chair to approve
(voice vote) 1st Holli Hansel 2nd Jake Richardson

AYE # - 4

NAY # - 0

ABS # - 0

Motion for Deanna Barbour to remain as Secretary
(voice vote) 1st Holli Hansel 2nd Craig Bennett

AYE # - 5

NAY # - 0

ABS # - 0

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn meeting at 12:44pm
(voice vote) 1st Holli Hansel 2nd Adam Beissel

AYE # - 5

NAY # - 0

ABS # - 0