

## **RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

### **MINUTES OF JACKSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING**

**JULY 13, 2016**

Hawke called the meeting to order 6:01 p.m. at the Jackson Township Hall with all Trustees, Fiscal Officer and Vaccaro present. He requested that all cell phones be turned off at this time.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Hawke said this meeting was requested by the library and the Board to discuss the changes the library is planning and some projects the Township is looking at to better serve North Park for the entire community and not just the sports. He introduced those in attendance.

Jackson Local School District Superintendent, Chris DiLoreto  
Chief Executive Officer for the YMCA of Central Stark County, Tim Shetzer  
Stark Parks Executive Director, Robert Fonte  
Stark County Library District Executive Director, Tena Wilson

Mr. Hawke said last year the Movie in the Park project began and was very well attended. He said the first one this year was also well attended, with the second one coming up this weekend. He said since the residents were willing to pass the park levy they wanted to do things in the park that were for everybody. He said the parks are great for those involved in sports but there are a lot of other people who don't use the parks for the sports aspect but they may use the walking track and some other things. He said they started looking into an amphitheater for movies, concerts, plays and things like that. He said in talking to Arts in Stark they are looking at ways to incorporate things with them. He said Fiscal Officer Gonzalez spoke with Representative Shuring about ways to fund this. He said we were lucky enough to be put in the budget bill and will receive a grant for one million dollars toward an amphitheater. He said while that was going on Tena Wilson contacted them regarding some things they wanted to do with the library so they started looking at how they could incorporate everything together, then they started talking with Bob Fonte to involve Stark Parks. He pointed out that there is no plan yet, that it is all still in the planning stage.

Chris Diloreto said he appreciated the opportunity to participate especially regarding the amphitheater. He said the band, choir and school arts programs and they are excited. He thanked everyone on behalf of the district and board of education for allowing them to be part of the discussions.

Tim Shetzer thanked everyone for attending. He said he has been in the community for around 20 years in his current role and it's remarkable what this area has done in that time. He said with the proximity of the Y, he was sure their groups would use something like the amphitheater.

Robert Fonte thanked everyone for the opportunity to be involved. He said Stark Parks' perspective is the connectivity issue, being able to get from the Y to the library, to the bog and to other resources in the township.

Tena Wilson said there were several board members present from the library board. She said everyone is probably thinking 'why are they tearing down a 25 year old building.' She explained that the building has had issues from the time it was built and although they thought it had been taken care of and after an infrared study there were a lot of things that needed to be addressed and it would have cost another \$700,000 to bring the building to where it needed to be. She said their architect told them they could replace the building for about the same amount to correct the problems and refresh the inside.

Randy Gonzalez said he was happy to see so many people show up because it is still in the planning stage and one of the priorities was to keep the library in the park. He said Tena has promised that the heritage of the building will be transferred to the new building. He said there was a lot work done by the civic organizations to raise the money to build the library. He said the key thing is that they want to get as much feedback from the residents as possible. He said it was Todd's idea to have the movie in the park and there were a lot of families with three generations in attendance. He said there is a need for more community rooms.

Eric Lowe, 3315 Enfield Ave. N.W., said he has been a member of Jackson Township since 1972. He worked at the library branch in downtown Canton and was offered a position at the Jackson branch when it opened. He said there was a time capsule that was to be opened in 50 years and that he hoped it would be moved to the new building.

Chuck Bennell, 6104 Dorchester Court Circle, said he was an original contributor to the library and served on the Stark County District Library Board for several years. He said during that time he remembers the Jackson Branch as a technical and maintenance disaster. He said he is glad to see public agencies working together and focusing on what is good for the people of the community.

George Wagner, 3016 Inwood Dr. N.W., said he has lived there since 1987. He said he has been involved in different things in the community like the public safety committee and the recycling board. He said there is another organization that may have an interest is the Jackson Historical Society. He said they may want to be involved somewhere along the way.

Tony Petrecca, 5801 Foxboro Ave., said they moved here in 1985. He asked about legal aspects in the Limited Self Government Resolution against noise and nuisance. He read sections from the resolution. He asked how many weekends or days of the week would they listen to music of a variety of genre being transmitted through the neighborhoods. He asked if loud music could be limited to once every three or four months.

Mr. Hawke told him they couldn't answer that at this point. He said they haven't decided on a location yet and then they would have to look at size and where the noise will travel and how far it will travel.

Mr. Petrecca asked if the residents will have any input on how often loud musical events would be scheduled. He said there are a lot of people in the area that find loud music to be very annoying. He said no one seems to be concerned about the level of noise during these events and whether it affects the people in his neighborhood.

Mr. Vaccaro explained how he works with the Police Department on noise violations.

Tim Conry, 5946 Easypace Circle N. W., said he noticed that the building is much smaller than the other building. He asked if this is the smallest that libraries are built to handle the volume of people.

Ms. Wilson said they are testing. She said she doesn't know if it's been done exactly the way they are going to do it. She said they are going to do whatever they have to do to serve the community at the same level. She said they aren't sure of the square footage of the new building yet.

Barb Karaiskos, 5668 Hill Run Circle, said she recalls an architect making a drawing of an amphitheater around 1974. She said she thinks the amphitheater was in South Park and down in a dip.

Mr. Gonzalez said he was on the Board at that time and the area on the hill across from the pond was for the amphitheater but they never got that far.

She said she thought the terrain of the land and the trees would buffer the sound and be more acceptable to this type of thing rather than sticking it in the middle of a field. She said her second thought is addressed to the Superintendent. She said since the schools would like to have more programs with big bands she wanted to know if they could start thinking about using what they already have. She asked how libraries are different now.

John Karaiskos, 5668 Hill Run Circle, said the library is a great thing. He said he has no problem with the things that are in the park, the walking track, the tennis courts, the basketball courts, the ball fields. He said they are all things he can get involved in or not and he wouldn't be affected one way or the other if he doesn't. He said when he hears amphitheater a red flag goes up. He asked if this is a done deal. He said noise is a concern. He asked if it could be put to the community to vote on.

Mr. Vaccaro said it may not be an issue that would meet the statutory provisions to be voted on.

Tom Turner, 3902 Bramshaw Rd. N.W., thanked everyone for the presentations. He said it's very exciting to be looking ahead. He said if the amphitheater is planned correctly it would be a community asset.

Sam Buel, 210 15<sup>th</sup> St. S.W., Massillon, said he is here representing the Stark County Disc Golf Association who uses a lot of the parks in Stark County. He said one of the main things they need is another championship caliber course.

Chuck Nunley, 5693 Vantage Hill N.W., said he was excited about the extension of the trails and the library. He asked if the library would be built on the same site. He said years ago they wanted to bring entertainment in. He said rock and heavy metal bands were brought in and undesirable people followed with them. He said residents went into their houses and looked out the windows. He said he thinks the perfect place for an amphitheater would be in South Park. He said he was concerned about the placement of an amphitheater. He asked what school bands would use the amphitheater and was told some of the smaller groups, like the jazz band. Mr. Nunley said the local school bands would be okay because they wouldn't draw Canton people out here. He said it was bad enough they had the brew bus running back and forth. He said he is concerned about where Jackson Township is going if they don't watch what entertainment comes out here and where they put the amphitheater.

Alan Beswick, 7765 Cranford St., said he and his wife walk in the park every day and they have noticed the memorial markers. He wondered if a memorial walkway or wall had been considered.

Albert Marinelli, 6444 Corrine Dr. N.W., said he and his wife spend time in Texas in the winter and they have found a library that they like. He described what it was like. He said they can hear the band play at football games and they can hear the practice sessions. He said he can tolerate that. He said he isn't certain the sound can be controlled in the amphitheater, who is there playing what type of music. He said he is concerned about drugs. He said if you're playing certain types of music you will pull in people from all over. He said it would be for the benefit of just Jackson residents. He said they will come from all over and could bring with them the kind of morality that we want to maintain. He said there is a huge drug problem in various communities and he didn't want to see it expanded into Jackson Township. He said he would like the Township to buy more land.

Judy Higgins, 6197 Fernwood St. N.W., said she is delighted they will be getting a new library and that she is pleased that Buehler's, the Juice Bar and the Y will be helping out with meeting places. She said she is a tutor and reviewed some things she hoped the library would consider with the new building.

Steve Rohr, 5721 High Mill, thanked everyone for having the meeting. He asked how long they had before the grant went away. No one knew. He said combining restrooms with the library was a good idea and he said he was excited to get involved with this. He said there had been some discussion about putting a tunnel under Fulton Road and wondered if Stark Parks could help with those trails.

Mr. Gonzalez said Fulton and Wales is the exact geographical center of Jackson Township and that Mr. Pizzino has been working on a project to widen Fulton from Brunnerdale to Wales which is probably two years down the road. He said they're trying to get bike trails and sidewalks from those allotments to get the people into the parks.

Mr. Fonte said Stark Parks have to leverage the tax dollars they get. He said they are excited about doing whatever it takes to make these connections. He said the money is the last thing you

worry, you get a good plan and you get the team together and over time if you follow that plan all the pieces will fall together.

Ron Morr, 7811 Windward Trace Circle, said he thought he would see some preliminary ideas from the Township Trustees as to what is being proposed. He asked since there is no definite plan what criteria was used that the township was awarded a million dollar grant to build an amphitheater in the park. He was told it was a preliminary grant request. He asked how many people were surveyed regarding the amphitheater. He was told there wasn't a survey. He asked about the possibility of planning an amphitheater that costs much more than the state grant and how would that amount be paid for.

Mr. Gonzalez explained that the parks were built with what money was available. He said they plan and focus on a budget. He said the Township tries to live within their means and those means do not include asking for another levy.

Scott Arnold, 7711 Cheryl Lane, said he appreciates the fact that the grant money is available but with no definite plan in place yet he wanted to know what the next step is. He was told it would be to have an architect look into it. He asked that the next time something like this comes up that the Trustees asked the residents opinion before they apply for any grants.

Cheryl Haschak, 6246 Drexel St. N.W., said there is a model to follow since Green just opened a park with an amphitheater and a splash area for kids. She said we have to keep the township young and keep moving forward.

Mr. Gonzalez thanked the people from the library for being in attendance. He said that some of the comments made are not indicative of Jackson Township as a whole. He said when there were talks about building the basketball courts there were very few people said not to build them because it would bring the wrong people into our community, or bring the wrong people into our community because of the music we play or people from Canton. He said there were a lot of people from Jackson Township that goes to Canton's First Friday and has a great time. He said that's not fair for us to try to say that's indicative of Jackson Township. He said it's not indicative of the people in Jackson Township and he apologized for those comments. He said Edmund Mack who is present and a member of the library board and a member of Canton City council and we've had great partnerships with the City of Canton. He said he didn't think that was fair.

One of the men who spoke earlier said he was sorry that the board was stifling some of the comments. He said there some comments from. . .

Mr. Gonzalez said he wasn't stifling. He said he was making his own comments. He said he had a right to speak, that he didn't give those up when he ran for office.

The man asked if this was an open forum. Mr. Gonzalez said yes.

The man said he didn't feel that he was accepted with his comments.

Mr. Gonzalez said he got to say what he wanted to say.

Pizzino moved and Hawke seconded a motion to adjourn.

**3-0 yes**

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**Todd Hawke**

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**Randy Gonzalez**