

PRESENT: Vice Chairman John Hammond, Cieria Ramon, Stacey Francis, Mark Craig, Parks Director Carrie Reardon.

ABSENT: Sam Battle, Maggie Lieux, and Tami Martinak.
(John Hammond mentioned that Mr. Battle is recovering in the hospital and gives his best to Tami for the loss of her mother)

GUESTS:

- none

CALL TO ORDER:

SPEAKER(s):

- none

MAYOR/SAFETY SERVICE OFFICE UPDATE:

- none

APPROVAL OF CONSENTED ITEMS:

- Agenda
- Minutes from April 9, 2026
- April 2026 Financials
- Stacey Francis motion to approve the Consented Items, Cieria Ramon 2nd

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

- None

BUSINESS:

- None

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- none

PARKS DIRECTOR REPORT

- **Ensure They Shine – Free Family Event**
This event was held on Saturday April 25th from 11a-2p and it was a he success. There were over 50 local organization/business that had a table at the event to offer resources to residents. We had over 500 people attend the 3-hour event. Partnering with Lorain County Children and Families First Council was great. They are a great group of people and easy to work with.
- **Pocket Park**
We have a contractor and should have a contract in the next week. Completion is scheduled for the end of August.
- **Memorial Day Parade**
We will be in the parade again this year and we will be riding in the Hay Wagon that our Maintenance guys restored last year. Staff is looking forward to the parade as it has been a lot of fun the past few years. Cieria may be able to help out.
- Mark Craig submitted a referral to Council for City to purchase lots near West Park. Multiple small lots that abut the park on the South side of the Park.

- **Nicole Edwards, Recreation Supervisor**
 - Safety Town – Received 75 applications for volunteers of which 43 will be first time volunteers. Parashaye Horton and Kennedy Shaver will be returning as Onsite Coordinators joined by Officer Joe Figula.
 - TAP – The Active People – We have had 7 new individuals join the program within the last three months. The participants are regularly attending and continue to encourage each other. One of the participants has recently started a food exchange, in which they can bring in food items to donate or take something they like from someone else’s donation.

- **Brandon Lawler, Recreation Supervisor**
 - With a smooth launch to our spring programs, we are now getting ready for the summer! The Spring Youth Soccer leagues, Spring Youth Volleyball leagues, Spring Adult Volleyball Leagues and the Volleyball Open Gyms are at West Park and running smoothly!
 - Our Youth Tennis program has started this past Saturday and the participants were visibly excited. Spring T-ball is back as well and is scheduled to start next week at North Park!
 - Now it’s time to prepare for the summer programs, leagues, clinics and events. Making an exciting return this summer is our specialty clinics. The Golf, Pickleball, E-Sports, Basketball, Cheer, Soccer and Volleyball Clinics are filling up fast, with some already filled. I believe our community enjoy these clinics because they are a one-week commitment, and are jampacked with fun and creative ways to teach and engage the participants.
 - Furthermore, the Mobile Rec will arrive in June! With a brand-new structure to our Mobile Rec Program, we will be more intentional with our engagement. We will target specific age groups to offer activities that are relevant to that age group. For example, we are scheduled to have a *Tot-Time* for kids ages 4 & under which will engage in activities such as art in the park/story time, music & movement, sports mashup and a scavenger hunt. We will also offer other activities for older age groups such as 3v3 basketball tournaments, Rec Wagon Olympics, organized Kickball/volleyball/pickleball games and tournaments and much more. In addition to the Mobile Rec, we are preparing for Everything Teen to return! This popular program has been successful in the past and will provide teenagers a safe environment to enjoy socializing and engaging in teen specific activities every Friday evening throughout the summer.
 - Moving on to our Summer Camps which are full! With the addition of two new camp weeks/themes (Outer Space Week and Under the Sea Week), we are thrilled to expand the experience for community residents. During summer camps this year, we will have guest speakers/presenters join us to engage with our campers in unique ways. For example, we will have Realm of the Reptiles bring in exotic animals for campers to experience up close! We will also host the Great Lakes Science Center for Outer Space Week, Whiz Bang Science Shows for S.T.E.M Week, Yoga by Halle for Get Set. Get Fit Week and Spark Theater for Under the Sea Week.
 - In addition to all of this, we are also currently preparing for summer soccer leagues, Summer T-Ball, Youth Baseball Leagues and Summer Adult Volleyball Open Gym.
 - As always, this is an exciting time in Elyria Parks & Recs!

- **Kaleigh Hernandez, Recreation Supervisor**

- We are only about a week away from our lifeguard certification course where we hope to train and retrain about 10 lifeguards. After the course we are training hard for about two weeks straight in all areas to get ready for our pool opening. East pool is set to open June 2nd and North pool will be later on in June. Learn to swim lesson registration opened recently and classes are filling up nicely. Looking forward to another season at the pools.
- We were offering adult kickball this spring, but we did not get enough sign ups so we will try and offer it again in the near future.
- Our fields at West, South, and North have teams on them almost every night. Teams from Elyria and out of the city. We put a lot of time and work into the fields and into the planning of the scheduling and our maintenance department does a great job.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- none

Next meeting will be Thursday, June 11, 2026 at South Recreation Center Meeting Room @ 4:30pm.
(subject to change).

ADJOURNMENT:



Parks Board Chairman



Parks Director



Secretary