

PRESENT: Chairman Sam Battle, Vice Chairman John Hammond, Cieria Ramon, Stacey Francis, Mark Craig, Parks Director Carrie Reardon, Secretary Tami Martinak

ABSENT: Maggie Lieux

GUESTS:

- Natalie Karn, Lorain County Public Health. Chalk the Walk event

CALL TO ORDER:

SPEAKER(s):

- Natalie Karn, Lorain County Public Health. Chalk the Walk event will be August 15th 9am -2pm. at Ely Square. Overdose Awareness, family friendly event. MC will hopefully be the same person, food trucks, craft projects. 200-300 attended in the past. Would like the permission to continue the event in Ely Square. Need to double check the Farmer's Market dates. Carrie will check.
- John Hammond made motion to allow the Lorain County Public Health to have the annual Chalk the Walk Event on August 15th from 9am – 2pm in Ely Square. Cieria Ramon 2nd.

MOTION CARRIED

MAYOR/SAFETY SERVICE OFFICE UPDATE:

- none

APPROVAL OF CONSENTED ITEMS:

- Agenda
- Minutes from May 14, 2026
- May 2026 Financials
- Stacey Francis motion to approve the Consented Items, Cieria Ramon 2nd

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

- None

BUSINESS:

- None

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- John Hammond made comments regarding Brandon Lawler. He is very pleasant to work with and a great asset to the department.
- Check into streaming softball tournaments. Currently use Live Barn for Hockey at the Ice Rink. The individual teams pay for this service.
- Signs at the corner of Ely Square? Is this allowed. Parks Director said no. She will have someone remove the sign ASAP.

PARKS DIRECTOR REPORT

- Saturday Evening Concerts
 - June 13th – Good Vibes Better People
 - July 18th – TARP
 - August 22nd – La Flavour
 - Ely Square – 5:30 – 7:30p
- Pocket Park
 - Work was started on June 1st. We anticipate a 2-3-month project.
- Cieria Ramon made motion to accept the Parks Directors Report, Stacey Francis 2nd.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Nicole Edwards, Recreation Supervisor**
 - Safety Town – Parashaye Horton & Kennedy Shawver will be the Onside Coordinators. Officer Joe Figula will be our returning Safety Town Office. Our numbers are down for participants and volunteers this year.
 - TAP – The Active People – Michelle has returned from her surgery. The participation has remained consistent and several new people have joined.
 - Thursday Summer Concerts – June 4th kicked off the season with our first performance! Weather was amazing and the square was full of people eating and listening to music. Food Trucks Frankie B's, Moto Pizza & Triple Exotixx were onsite.
- **Brandon Lawler, Recreation Supervisor**
 - Summer is here and we are excited to offer summer programs and leagues to our community! Our youth soccer leagues, youth volleyball leagues and adult volleyball leagues are at West Park! Also, summer camps and clinics are getting ready to start. The clinics that are being offered this year are Golf, Pickleball, E-Sports, Cheerleading, Basketball, Tennis, Soccer and Volleyball! These 1-week experiences are usually offered as a 6-week program but with this condensed format, families are able to receive 6 weeks of content/training and conclude with a finale event. The finale event is usually a game, competition, performance or an experience (e.g., our cheer clinic works on a performance all week and present a big performance on Friday night in front of family and friends, whereas our golf clinic's final event is a family mini-putt experience.) Each clinic is special and will help families create wonderful summer memories.
 - Also, our T-ball and youth baseball leagues have begun at North Park.
 - Furthermore, the Mobile Rec has arrived and is having an immediate impact on our community! As mentioned before, we are going to engage with families and parkgoers in a unique way through the Mobile Rec program. With this program we will be able to bring programs, activities and events to parks around Elyria to meet community residents at their local parks. In addition to the Mobile Rec, Teen Night has returned! This and every Friday, we will host 30 – 50 teenagers at East Recreation Center for a program called Everything Teen. This popular program has been successful in the past and will provide teenagers a safe space to enjoy socializing and engaging in teen specific activities.
 - Lastly, our Summer Camps are starting next week and we are prepared to offer a safe, organized, learning environment filled with fun and excitement! Each camp is full with 50 registrations.
 - As always, this is an exciting time in Elyria Parks & Recs!
- **Kaleigh Hernandez, Recreation Supervisor**
 - East pool has opened this week. We are hopeful that by asking for everyone to have a pool badge we can alleviate some of the issues we have had in the past. Swim lessons and private lessons will begin next week. Both of which are booked and full at both pools. We again are having issues with instructor availability to teach the classes. Especially in the evening sessions. It seems as the years go on it becomes more and more difficult to staff swim lessons, so we will have to think about plans moving forward on how to solve this issue.
 - Overall, we are a little short on staff this season as well so scheduling for shifts and events is a little difficult with having two pools open daily. We will keep working on this.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- none

Next meeting will be Thursday, August 13, 2026 at East Recreation Center @ 4:30pm.
(subject to change).

ADJOURNMENT:


Parks Board Chairman

Parks Director


Secretary