



**Recreation Committee Minutes
Wednesday, February 5, 2020
6 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers**

Members Present: Earl Williams, Council Member, Chairperson
Carmella Williams, Council Member
David E. Weiss, Mayor
Jeri Chaikin, CAO
Sharyn Lowenkamp, Citizen Member
Alexandria Nichols, Recreation Department Director
Tim Richards, School Representative
Lisa Cremer, School Board Representative
Kathleen Hayes, Citizen Member
Jonathan Kraft, Citizen Member

Others Present: Jan Devereaux, League of Women Voters Representative
Ifeolu Claytor

CALL TO ORDER

Earl Williams, Council Member, Chairperson

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm by Council Chairperson, Earl Williams

Review and Approval of December 4, 2019 Minutes

Earl Williams, Council Member, Chairperson

Minutes from December 2019 were reviewed and approved as written.

Introduction and Role of Committee

The City of Shaker Heights function's with a number of committee's and committee chairs. The tradition is to include citizen members on these committees so that the residents are included in the processes. Voting members of the committee are council members and appointed citizens. Various decision making Recreation Department items will come before the committee for discussion and proposed legislation for City Council to be voted on. At the beginning of each two year term, each director that reports to a committee provides the committee a presentation that describes functions of their department and explains prior year accomplishments and identifies the current year's focus and goals. The presentation shared with the Recreation Committee is attached at the end of this document.

Questions:

CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS

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shakeronline.com www.shaker.life

Where does the most community engagement occur for the Recreation Department?

Answer: The School Age Care program is the department's largest program and touches the most families as far as program initiatives. Thornton Park is by far the most heavily trafficked and visited facility that the Recreation Department operates.

Does the Recreation Department have a process in place that measures the usage of the facilities and the effectiveness of the programs?

Answer: The City offers a variety of programs that are tracked in different ways. For a fee based program the department has a minimum number of registrants that are expected and the program will be cancelled if the minimum number is not met. There are activities and pop up programs that are offered for free that are measured by participation. The department regularly reviews what activities were utilized and underutilized based on time of year, time of day and dates that the particular activity was offered. Based on that, research the department amends the activity offerings going forward. Other programs are reviewed and changed based on trends in participation over a period of time.

How are the members of the Recreation Committee helpful to the city?

Answer: The City relies on the members of the committee to help approve various potential legislative issues that will be recommended to City Council as well as utilizing the various member's educational skill sets. The resident members are also valued for their perspective as an active resident of the city and their opinion on the topics as it relates to the residents.

How does the city continuously engage with the community and residents?

Answer: The overwhelming focus has been to enhance the experience and opportunities for Shaker families with children. The City has a number of programs that help develop children in sports and other relationships. The City is always looking for diverse ways to stay engaged with the community and hear their wants and needs as it relates to what the City can do for them.

Does the Recreation Department look at other cities strategies for programming and other engagement ideas?

Answer: Yes, the Recreation Department participates in a variety of different networking opportunities and conferences that are offered throughout the country. Also the staff frequently seek information from other communities as it relates to programs, fees, and facility management.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm. The next Recreation Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, Mach 4, 2020, 6:00 pm at City Hall.

Earl Williams, Council Member
Chairperson, Recreation Committee