

**Huron Joint Recreation District
Regular Board Meeting – Minutes
Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2024, at 6:30 PM
City Municipal Building, Huron, OH**

Members Present: Tom Solberg, Roger Blevins, Elizabeth Laffay, Eddie Wimmer, Matt Greives, Julie Spitzley

Present from HPRD: Doug Steinwart, Brian Croucher, Rick Reinbolt

Present from City of Huron: None

Members Absent: Missie Huntley, Jonathan Merckens

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve Nov. 5, 2024, minutes as presented; by Eddie Wimmer and seconded by Matt Grieves. Approved unanimously.

Audience Comments: None

1. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Waterfront Parks Plan & Connectivity Survey– presented by Doug Steinwart:** Mr. Steinwart walked through the Waterfront Parks Plan Connectivity Survey for the Board members. Mr. Steinwart reminded the Board a few things internally have changed since the last meeting when the Plan was presented – the income tax measure on the ballot failed, which ultimately will affect capital projects – this project potentially being one of many unless there are grant opportunities available. There is an upcoming meeting with OHM to discuss costs associated with the plan. This exercise in creating a plan is valuable for potential grant opportunities. We appreciate the 326 responses with comments. For those wishing to hear the Connectivity Survey review, it is available on the City’s website under, Boards, Commissions and Committees, HJRD, Dec. 3rd audio.

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **WinterFest presented by Brian Croucher:** Mr. Croucher reminded the Board the WinterFest will be this Sat. Dec. 7th from 1-6:30 PM at the Boat Basin. As a reminder - the dept has partnered with Greater Sandusky Partnership to include the area businesses through both sponsorship dollars and involvement in the event. This year’s event will be kicked off with the Parade at 1 PM, Santa & Mrs. Claus will be at the HBB from 2-6 PM, the Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place at 6:15 PM at the HBB. Carriage Rides from 2-6 PM, Fireworks at 6:30 PM. The Winter Market and the Winter Fairy will be located inside the Harbor House. The Lion’s Club will be hosting a fire pit with s’mores. Many great family photo ops will be available around the Basin. Warm Hands from Young Hearts Giving Tree will be located in the Boat Basin. Collected items are shared with those in need locally. Mr. Croucher read the list of the WinterFest sponsors.
- b. **Misc. Parks & Recreation – presented by Doug Steinwart:** Mr. Steinwart announced Huron has been awarded three Lake Erie Scenic Vista locations through the Ohio Coastal Management Program, by ODNR. Lake Front Park, Rotary Centennial Park and Lighthouse Pier. Signs will be hung with a QR code explaining what the ODNR Lake Erie Scenic Vista is all about and their location along Lake Erie. The department went before the Huron Township Board asking for approval to place a new sign at Berlin Road Park. HBB will officially close on Dec. 1st. HBB is participating in the Cleveland Boat Show at the IX Center in January, promoting the Basin, special events, and Huron in general. The Boat Ramp docks will be removed on Dec. 9th, the 40 feet we have left in the past will be left again this year. Sealcoating warranty work took place

at Fabens Park. Fall clean-ups are complete and everything is winterized and ready for the season. One hundred yards of wood fiber were delivered to Oklahoma, Fabens and Lake Front Park. The Ice-Skating rink will be set up first week of January – weather permitting.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Solberg announced the next meeting to be Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2025, and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Going around the room, there were several nice accolades and comments of appreciation from several Board members.

OTHER MATTERS – ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Eddie Wimmer; second by Matt Grieves

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kilbury