RECOGNITION – ACKERMAN SPORTS & FITNESS CENTER EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS

The Park Board of Commissioners recognized the following individuals who assisted in a lifesaving event at the Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center including staff members: Myron Yocum, Stacey Lim, and Pete Heinrich, as well as Bola Akinlawon and Maurice Velasco who were part of the soccer group where the incident occurred.

President Weber discussed that during open soccer, a 48-year old male had just taken a shot on goal and as he turned to run back up the field, he collapsed almost immediately, losing momentary consciousness and having difficulty breathing. The front desk attendant was notified and called 911 while two other staff members went to the field equipped with an AED. Just prior, two soccer players with some medical training, administered chest compressions. Upon arriving to the scene, Stacey Lim, an ASFC employee, quickly assessed the situation, activated the AED, shocking a rhythm back to the person’s heart. Paramedics then arrived, took over emergency procedures and transported the person to Glen Oak Hospital where the player was evaluated and treated. Through the quick and selfless actions of staff and participants, the victim’s life was saved.

The Park Board of Commissioners and the District commended the staff who acted immediately with competence, calmness and decisiveness and acknowledged their heroic actions. These employees exemplify the type of quality individuals who work daily for the Park District and when called upon to react and assist in an extenuating and precarious situation, performed magnificently and flawlessly.

Also commended were the two players, Bola Akinlawon and Maurice Velasco, who were on the turf playing soccer at the time and were also integral to the rescue assistance. Bola and Maurice are regular participants who play twice a week in the morning from 5:30 to 7:00 a.m. Bola is a chiropractor and Maurice is a pharmacist. The Park District is very grateful for their quick response and readiness to assist the fallen player.

The Park District and Board of Commissioners presented a small token of appreciation to Stacey Lim, Myron Yocum, Pete Heinrich, Bola Akinlawon and Maurice Velasco for their selfless actions and willingness to help a patron experiencing a medical emergency and thus saving that person’s life.

ACKERMAN PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PRIORITIES DISCUSSION

Executive Director Harris discussed the preliminary steps that were taken to begin the process of improving Ackerman Park and beginning Phase IV of the master plan with the goal to achieve construction initiating in mid-summer 2019. Several steps have taken place including engaging a landscape architectural firm to provide the expertise, experience, and leadership to specify and develop the scope of the project and to prepare the necessary documents for bidding and implementation. A planning committee has also been created and they have identified preliminary priorities which have been discussed and presented previously to the Board and at a public meeting where surrounding residents and the community were invited to attend. The CFC has also reviewed the proposed project at their past two meetings.
The Park Board of Commissioners held further discussion of the various priorities, posed questions to staff, and voiced their opinions of support and disapproval of various elements within the listed and proposed priorities. Following the discussion, the Park Board of Commissioners approved the Ackerman Park improvement project phase IV priorities as presented with a four (4) to two (2) vote.

CITIZEN FINANCE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Superintendent of Finance & Personnel Cinquegrani discussed that pursuant to the Citizens’ Finance Committee (CFC) bylaws, the Park Board of Commissioners shall approve annually, by a majority vote, the members of the Citizens’ Finance Committee. Currently four (4) members have expiring terms but have expressed interest in remaining on the committee. The following slate was presented for approval and the Park Board of Commissioners approved membership in the Citizens’ Finance Committee as presented, renewing the expiring terms for new two (2) year-terms and staff stated they will continue to recruit new members.

1-Year Terms (concluding June 2019)
Leo Lanzillo (Chairman)
Michael Graham
Tony Saguto

2-Year Terms (concluding June 2020)
Fred Bachman
Tom Lettenberger
Charlie Prisco
Don St. Clair