

COMMISSION REPORTER



Orange Community Education & Recreation 32000 Chagrin Blvd. Pepper Pike, OH 44124
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**Orange Community Education & Recreation
COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, September 13, 2011
6:30pm, Pepper Pike Learning Center**

Attended by:

Cindy Eickhoff
Laura Guentner
Julie Jordan
Joan Schenkel

Kim Szymanski
Ryburn Taylor
Cindy Wiley
Andrea Vederman

Not in attendance:

Beth Dallinga
Karen Erlenbach

Stanley Morganstern
Dr. Nancy Wingenbach

Results of Commission 2011-12 Representative Ballot & Introduction of New Representatives and Officers

Ms. Laura Guentner reported that Ms. Beth Dallinga, Ms. Joan Schenkel and Ms. Kim Szymanski were unanimously elected as At-Large Representatives to the 2011-12 Commission and each will begin serving a two year term. She also reported that Ms. Andrea Vederman was unanimously elected to a second two year term and that Ms. Julie Jordan was unanimously elected as Chairperson and Ms. Cindy Wiley was unanimously elected as Vice Chairperson.

Recognition of Retiring Representative Karen Erlenbach

Ms. Laura Guentner reported that Ms. Karen Erlenbach has resigned from the Commission after 17 years of service.

Approval of June 2011 Commission Meeting Minutes

Ms. Julie Jordan asked for approval of the June 2011 Commission meeting minutes. Ms. Andrea Vederman motioned to approve the minutes. Ms. Cindy Wiley seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Orange Schools Levy Presentation

Ms. Cindy Eickhoff reported that the Orange School Levy Committee has begun the school levy campaign and is currently making presentations to the community. There is a community forum scheduled in the PPLC Board room for September 27. The Committee will also be sending out mailings to community residents and will be stressing that the passing of the levy will allow the Orange School District to continue to "do the things that makes Orange special." Ms. Eickhoff stated that because of cuts in the State Budget and loss of tax dollars, the levy has become a necessity. She also reminded the group that the last levy, which was meant to last 4 years, was stretched to 7 years in length due to careful fiscal management. Mr. Ryburn Taylor also explained the difference between the Recreation Levy that just passed and the School Levy. He stressed that the School levies don't expire like the Recreation levies, but the dollars from the school levies are not adjusted for inflation or other factors like increased costs of living.

Mr. Taylor made the motion for the Commission to endorse the Orange School Levy. Ms. Cindy Wiley seconded the motion and the motion to endorse the School Levy was approved.

Board of Education/Superintendent Update

Ms Eickhoff reported that the new Brady School gymnasium is expected to be completed by October. Ms Eickhoff also stated that the work on the trusses in the indoor pool is almost complete.

Commission Bylaws Review Committee Update

Ms. Laura Guentner reported that the Bylaws Committee will be meeting to re-examine several items in the bylaws. A report will be delivered at the October Commission meeting.

State of the Department Report

Ms. Laura Guentner reviewed the State of the Department report that was distributed to the Commission. She stated that the OCE&R Department is thriving in an environment in which many Recreation and Community Education departments are closing. Ms. Guentner outlined how this year the Department will begin conducting self-assessments and quality reviews of its program areas that may last several years. She also stated that in 2012-2013 the Department will be holding a Community Strategic Planning session with district stakeholders to assist with planning for the next levy cycle and to obtain feedback from the community on the quality of OCER programs and to identify future needs of residents for programs and services. Planning for this session will begin later this year.

Program Area Updates

Coordinators were asked to review some of their goals and initiatives that were noted in the State of the Department report that the Director reviewed, including:

Ms. Julie Green reported that the Youth Department is examining the impact of full day kindergarten on its programs.

Ms. Wendy Scott Koeth reported that Stagecrafters' Cabaret Troupe will be changing its format this year to reach out and work with Special Needs youths.

Ms. Sally Jo Hirsch reported that the Early Childhood Department added two new classrooms and 5 new teachers.

Ms. Pam Bayus reviewed several programs in the Adult of All Ages Department.

Ms. Nancy Haag reported that the Orange Senior Center is exploring options for a name change to the facility and that the Health and Wellness Fair is on September 30. She also reported that the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival will be screening several films at the Orange Senior Center.

Ms. Sandra Andrews reported that the Aquatics Department is postponing several programs because the repairs on the indoor pool.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53pm

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS:

October 10	Board of Education Meeting
October 11, 6:30pm	Commission Meeting
October 24	Board of Education Meeting
October 27	Early Childhood Community Halloween Party
November 1-29	Chagrin Fall Documentary Film Fest – Best of the Best at Orange Sr. Center
November 8	Election Day – Please Vote!
November 18-20	Teen Academy Production of Xandu
November 29	Winter OCER Activity Brochure Released
November 30-Dec. 1	LERN Lifelong Conference Presentation

Next Commission Meeting – October 11, 2011 at 6:30pm