



City of Ashtabula

Ashtabula City Council

Community Development/Economic Development/Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 4:00 PM

Council Chambers

4717 Main Avenue

Agenda

- 1. Opening of Committee Meeting**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Sunshine Law Certification
- 2. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Visitors**
- 3. City Manager's Report**
- 4. Parks & Recreation Committee Report**
 - a. September & October 2021 meeting minutes
- 5. New Business**
 - a. Wayfinding Discussion
- 6. Next Meeting**
 - a. November 9, 2021 4:00 p.m.
- 7. Adjournment**

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
MEETING WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 8, 2021
Clifford Kaden Presidential Park

Board members present: Earl Tucker, Ken Vanyo, Mary Graves, Margaret Distler

Absent: Mary Kiehl, Trevor Sprague

Guests: Kevin Ambercombie *Albrecht*

Earl: Concerts at Walnut Beach went very well. Looking forward to the Summer 2022 concert series.

After some discussion, tabled in depth discussion until next month's meeting.

Kevin Ambercombie: Is interested in taking over the concession stand at Walnut Beach next summer.
Albrecht

Would bring breakfast back, have lunch basics of hot dogs and hamburgers. Earl directed Kevin how to look into getting a bid into the city and talked about the potential of the concession stand.

Earl: Talked about the selfie boat that is now located at Walnut Beach. Mr. Morrison contacted the city and wants to do a donated project for the beach in the way of an archway into Walnut Beach. Painted wrought iron and a few flood lights. Limited on the number of lights because of residences nearby.

Solar lighting is a possibility. Project should be done by the end of October 2021. City manager is in talks with Conneaut and Geneva cities about a shared purchase of a tractor drive brush hog.

Downtown parks: Homeless still an ongoing issue; Local agencies are looking into what more can be done. Mini housing may be a possibility.

Earl will be drafting a letter to the city about the conditions and overgrown grass at Clifford Kadon Presidential Park. Committee would like to have a second look at funding and cost for the lifeguard stand project. People are using the pickleball court at Topkey Library. Smith Field: Would like a playground. The Parks and Rec Board would like to have a resource officer hired and walking Walnut Beach next summer.

Minutes: Minutes of the August meeting were read, motion to accept by Margret Distler; second by Mary Graves, motion carried.

Next meeting Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021 at Key Bank Building

Meeting adjourned 6:35pm.

Mary Graves, Acting Secretary

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, October 5, 2021

Board members present: Earl Tucker, Mary Kiehl, Mary Graves, Margaret Distler, Ken Vanyo
Absent: Trevor Sprague

Minutes: minutes of the September meeting were read, one correction (last name of guest was Albrecht not Abercrombie) Motion to accept the minutes with correction by Maggie, second by Mary, motion carried.

Earl:

Has asked Finance Director for an update on our account.

New sign for Walnut Beach is in the works, being donated by Mr. Morrison.

Nappi Field – might not be usable for basketball court, will wait to hear back from CM.

Kaden Park – new sign up and looks nice. Grass & weeds have been cleared.

Point Park – hillside has been cleared, looks very nice.

Committee had discussion on other options if Nappi Field is not available for basketball courts in the Harbor.
Lifeguard stand for Walnut Beach is still being discussed, needs to be scaled back. Also need to research
Mobi mats for Walnut beach – wheelchair accessible.

Smith Field – committee still interested in adding exercise stations.

Next meeting Wednesday, November 3, 2021 ...note change in meeting date due to election day.

Meeting adjourned 6: 30pm.

Mary Kiehl, Secretary



Thursday, August 5, 2021 | [George Nelson](https://businessjournaldaily.com/author/gnelsonbusiness-journal-com/) |
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City Approves Planning Funds for Downtown Wayfinding Signage

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio – During its regular meeting Thursday, the Youngstown Board of Control approved paying \$13,500 to Guide Studios in Cleveland to assist with planning for pedestrian wayfinding signage and kiosks downtown.

The city will be reimbursed by Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, which the board voted to accept a \$10,000 planning grant from. The \$3,500 match for the grant will come from Economic Action Group, which provides economic development and entrepreneurship assistance to the city.

Guide Studios previously worked with the city on vehicular directional signage for downtown.

The signs will improve the central business district's walkability and help guide visitors to downtown venues, said Nick Chretien, EAG program manager.

Since the vehicular directional signage was installed, several assets have been added to the downtown, including the Raymond John Wean Foundation Amphitheatre and the Youngstown Business Incubator's Tech Block Building No. 5, Chretien said. In addition, Eastern Gateway Community College has expanded its downtown presence.

A planning session for the signage is scheduled for next week, he said. He expects to have a plan for the signs this fall or winter and the signage could be installed in the spring, pending funding availability and approval by the city's department of community planning and economic development.

Also during the meeting, the board – which consists of Mayor Jamael Tito Brown, Law Director Jeff Limbian and Finance Director Kyle Miasek – approved \$10,000 for Laugh and Learn Academy, a local day care, from the city's COVID-19 microenterprise grant fund.

The city has approved and awarded five grants totaling \$37,900 from the program, Beverly Hosey, director of the city's community development division. Another three businesses are preparing final paperwork for grant requests that could be submitted in time for the next board of control meeting.

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PRESS RELEASE

September 3, 2021
Mayor Thomas P. Perciak
City of Strongsville

Mayor Thomas P. Perciak & Strongsville City Council announced today the launch of the **Strongsville Town Center Enhancement and Walkability Initiative**, including a new Initiative website (www.strongsville.org/towncenter) featuring a public survey intended to gather additional input from Strongsville residents.

The Strongsville Town Center (*see attached map*) includes various community amenities that are utilized by tens of thousands of residents and visitors annually, including the Strongsville Recreation & Senior Center, the Strongsville Commons, Castletown Playground, the Strongsville Library, and more. The continued enhancement of this area further improves the quality of life for City residents while also providing additional amenities for area business men and women.

Potential enhancements through the Initiative may include, but are not limited to, the:

- Refurbishing of Castletown Playground
- Further integration of area walkways & the Freedom Trail to promote walkability/connectivity to area amenities
- Implementation of new wayfinding signage to direct residents and visitors to area amenities
- Additional quality of life amenities for the betterment of Strongsville residents

To help guide the continued redevelopment of the Strongsville Town Center, the City of Strongsville has extensively studied the area, implementing third party, expert recommendations. Studies of the Strongsville Town Center include:

- **Strongsville Master Plan** (May 2019) prepared by the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission
- **Wayfinding Analysis Report** (May 2019) prepared by Guide Studio
- **Strongsville Town Center District Redevelopment Plan** (August 2015) prepared by NOACA
- **Strongsville Walkable Community Workshop Report** (February 2009) prepared by NOACA

The **Strongsville Town Center Enhancement and Walkability Initiative** will incorporate data from the above reports with public input through the residents' survey (www.strongsville.org/towncenter) and a follow-up community open house, with plans for project implementation to begin in late 2021/early 2022.

To help fund area improvements, Mayor Thomas P. Perciak has instructed his administration to utilize and/or apply for grant assistance through programs available from the Federal Government, State of Ohio, Cuyahoga County, and regional non-profits, with such funds being designated for community projects and restricted from City administrative/operations use. In addition, the City will accept donations from various local civic groups and businesses.

For more information, please visit the **Strongsville Town Center Enhancement and Walkability Initiative** website at www.strongsville.org/towncenter where you can complete the online survey and review area reports. Residents are encouraged to complete the survey by the end of October 2021.

The Strongsville Town Center Enhancement and Walkability Initiative is another example of how **Strongsville Steps Up** through a commitment to proactive budgetary management, excellence in Safety Forces, vibrant economic development, and a dedication to first-rate community amenities and services. To learn more about how Strongsville succeed through a difficult 2020, visit www.strongsville.org/towncenter and review Mayor Thomas P. Perciak's 2020 State of the City presentation.

