

AMENDED MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
AUGUST 4, 2014
4:30 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Ms. Linda Teener, Mr. Mr. Ed Klimek, Bruce McMillan, and Mr. Mark Bachamp. Aaron Estabrook arrived a few minutes after the meeting was called to order. Mr. Dave Schafer, and Ms. Marcia Rozell were absent.

Also present: Mr. Eddie Eastes, Director of Parks and Recreation; Mr. Casey Smithson, Park Superintendent; Mr. Fred Goss, Flint Hills Discovery Center; Mr. Wyatt Thompson, Park Planner; Scott Shoemaker, Sunset Zoo Director; and Chrissy Kramer, Administrative Assistant.

MINUTES

Mr. Klimek called the meeting to order. Ms. Teener mentioned the word ‘tub’ should be ‘tube’ in the previous minutes of July 7, 2014, and the Minutes will be amended. It was moved by Linda Teener to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Mark Bachamp to approve the amended minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 7, 2014. On vote, motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Klimek then asked to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on July 14, 2014. It was moved by Mark Bachamp and seconded by Linda Teener to approve the minutes. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Klimek mentioned Ms. Teener’s tenure to the Advisory Board and appreciated her contributions as Chairperson.

INTRODUCTION OF CHRIS CURTIS, RECREATION SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Eastes introduced Chris Curtis, the new Recreation Superintendent to the Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Curtis introduced himself to the Board and spoke about his career and stated he was looking forward to working with Parks and Recreation.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS CONSULTANT STEERING COMMITTEE

On August 5, the recommendation of RDG will be in front of the city commission. Mr. Eastes provided a list of names associated with the Parks and Recreation Department. All people on the list have expressed an interest in participating on the steering committee. Discussions ensued about the list and how to proceed with sending to the City Commission. Mr. Estabrook made a motion that the advisory board forward the Steering Committee list to the City Commission, seconded by Linda Teener, with the addition to include more names to the list as necessary. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Thompson stated that the Kansas Department of Transportation approved two Transportation Alternative grants: the Knox Lane Pedestrian-Bicycle Path and the Juliette Brick Street Project. Details on both projects will be forthcoming in 2015. The one grant that was not approved was the 5th Phase of the Blue River Ditch Improvements. The City will be able to apply for funding again in 2 years. Mr. Thompson informed the Advisory Board of an upcoming Bicycle Safety Forum (held August 6, 2014). The forum, lead by KDOT representatives, will focus on bike safety on state highways. Mr. Thompson also updated the Advisory Board on the Manhattan Urban Area Comprehensive Plan Update and encouraged the Board members and the public to provide input. Potential growth scenarios are available online at www.manhattanarea2035.com until August 13. Mr. Thompson stated that he is working with Public Works and Community Development to emphasize parks and trails in the Plan. More information

is to come, and a presentation from Community Development is anticipated at the October PRAB meeting. The Comprehensive Plan Update is expected to be completed in March 2015.

Mr. Smithson stated the Furniture Amnesty on July 25, 2014, had 53 volunteers. 167 households participated in the event with 42% from K-State, 42% from Manhattan and surrounding communities, and 16% from military. The pool painting projects regarding Cico and Northview are moving forward. Discussions began about pool closings and the difficulty keeping lifeguards after August 1.

Mr. Shoemaker advised that the last week of summer camps were in session and they had full attendance. The Water Safari was held with approximately 1200 people. The Brew at the Zoo will be August 22, 450 tickets are available with 150 remaining. Last year's event sold out. Westar awarded the Sunset Zoo a 10K Watt photovoltaic solar array from a company in Lawrence, KS, which costs about \$78,000. This will reduce costs at the zoo as well as provide educational purposes for guests. The equipment includes a 25 year warranty.

Mr. Goss stated that the children's summer camp numbers were up from last year. The National Day of the Cowboy had 480 people and will be scheduled for an annual event. Family Day is set for September 7 with free admission. Upcoming events include Animal Secrets and Flint Hills Forces – 1917 to 1960 Into Early 2015 and will be featured at the same time.

FUTURE AGENDA

Mr. Eastes stated there will be an upcoming joint meeting with Riley County Parks and Recreation tentatively set for September 8, 2014. Mr. Shane Swope will report to the boards on drainage at Cico Park. There were 70 applicants for the Community Relations Director and hope to have the position filled in 60 days or so.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Eastes advised that the city pool parking will be reviewed due to not enough parking and drainage issues will be looked into. A possibility is to connect the splash park and pool and the Assistant City Manager, Kiel Mangus, will assist with the project. Updates will be given as needed. The Boy Scout House Request for Proposals is being drafted and hopefully be completed by the end of September. The new Parks and Recreations Offices kickoff meeting was held with Mr. McMillan. Mr. McMillan stated that the scope of work was approved by the City Commission. No timeline has been set but hoping for final plans later this year or early next year.

Mr. Eastes stated that Flint Hills Discovery Center and Sunset Zoo Rate Increase, Cico Park and Northview Pool Painting project and the RDG contract will be presented to the City Commission on September 2, 2014.

Mr. Eastabrook stated that this will be his last meeting and a rotation schedule begins with the Board of Education and he believes Ms. Pat Hudgins will be selected. Mr. Klimek thanked Mr. Eastabrook for his service with the advisory board.

Meeting adjourned.