

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
CITY COMMISSION ROOM
January 9, 2017 - 4:30 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Mr. Ed Klimek, Ms. Marcia Rozell, Ms. Linda Teener, Mr. Mark Bachamp, and Mr. Brian Thomason.

Absent: Ms. Leah Fliter and Mr. Dave Schafer.

Employees present: Mr. Eddie Eastes, Director of Parks and Recreation; Mr. Wyatt Thompson, Senior Park Planner; Mr. Randi Clifford, Recreation Director; and Mr. Casey Smithson, Park Superintendent.

MINUTES

Mr. Klimek called the meeting to order. It was moved by Mr. Bachamp, seconded by Ms. Rozell, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 5, 2016. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROCESS (CIP)

Mr. Eddie Eastes shared with the board that the meeting dates do not align with the Budget Calendar. He also shared the Staff CIP requests need to be completed by the end of this month. Mr. Eastes also stated that this meeting was an opportunity to review and ask questions about the Budget Calendar. March 3, 2017 is the Citizen and Advisory Board CIP request deadline.

Mr. Eastes shared the current 2018 CIP listing for the Parks and Recreation department. He invited the advisory board to ask questions regarding any project listed. Ms. Rozell asked about the parks software request. Mr. Smithson shared that the software would allow the parks department to coordinate maintenance work orders and track facility maintenance with the recreation division through the software. Ms. Thomason requested clarification on the City Park project for Clarenberg Trail. Mr. Thompson indicated that the trail is currently eight foot wide trail for the majority of the park with the exception of a few hundred feet along 11th Street. The project funds will be used to widen that portion of the trail. Mr. Eastes shared the Expedition Asia and parking lot projects for the Sunset Zoo. Mr. Klimek clarified that the board members have an opportunity to submit an advisory board CIP requests or submit CIP items as a citizen as well. Mr. Klimek requested a tour for the advisory board of park projects and Mr. Eastes agreed that should happen in spring.

STAFF UPDATES

Mr. Smithson shared that the park staff has been working on maintenance and repairs behind the scenes. Park staff is attending annual training that needs to occur to maintain certifications and licenses. The staff is also wrapping up 2016 projects and preparing to begin 2017 projects around town. Ms. Rozell asked if the sledding hill was highly utilized during the recent snow fall. Mr. Smithson was not able to make it to CiCo during the last snow. Mr. Klimek asked when seasonal hiring will begin. Mr. Smithson responded that hiring would begin in February.

Mr. Clifford mentioned the upcoming Kansas Recreation and Parks Conference that is being hosted by MPRD in Manhattan at the end of January. A large portion of our staff will be involved with assisting with planning and working the conference. Youth and adult basketball programs are running. The gyms are very busy with practices, games and rentals. Mr. Clifford also discussed the transition of the building maintenance staff to the department. Jeff Mayer will be supervising the individuals who handle custodial

duties for City Hall, Community House, and City Auditorium. Mr. Clifford mentioned that registration for the Winter/Spring Activities Guide opened on January 9, 2017. The tournament use for Twin Oaks and Anneberg Soccer increased from 337 teams in 2015 and up to 547 teams hosted in 2016. A total participation for recreation in 2016 was 314,883 individuals. Ms. Rozell asked how ice skating is performing. Mr. Clifford indicated that ice skating numbers are trending to show an increase as well. Mr. Thomason asked how growth in programs and tournaments will affect parking. Mr. Clifford indicated that parking can be an issue when there is a maximum capacity usage in the park. Our department monitors the scheduling of events to reduce the demand for parking as much as possible.

Mr. Thompson spoke about the West Anderson project beginning in the next week or two. Near the entrance to Anneberg Park, there will be some signage to notify traffic of construction. The project will add a pedestrian controlled crossing from Sharingbrook into Anneberg Park and is a huge safety improvement to get residents safely into the park. It will create a new trail down to the existing trail and a portion of the existing trail along the north side of the trail will be paved and allow the parks crew to plow the trail and make that part of the trail a year round use trail. The contractors are expected to be out of the park by March for our spring activities to start. There will also be additional trail added to the West of the park to Scenic Drive and South on Scenic Drive across Wildcat Creek bridge. There is discussion about connecting under Wildcat Creek bridge to connect the Highland Meadows neighborhood as well. The DCC architectural and electrical renovations will have a design kickoff meeting this week. The project is funded with Community Development Block Grant to update the restroom and locker area for better utilization. Colorado Park is complete. The Jorgenson Park Trail extension will have a public meeting on February 2nd, from 5:30-6:30 at the Sunset Zoo. This will connect Anderson Avenue to Poliska Lane. Mr. Thompson also mentioned that Sunset Zoo Master Plan and Strategic Plan received six submittals and will be meeting with the committee to select a firm to recommend complete the project.

Mr. Klimek asked about the Anderson Ave construction and how it would affect the tree line at Anneberg Park. Mr. Thompson indicated that we have worked with the consultant to ensure the tree line remains. Mr. Thomason asked if there was any consideration for permanent speed limit change at the entrance to the park. Mr. Thompson indicated that a temporary speed limit change will happen as part of the project and a permanent reduction would need to be considered in the Public Works Department. Mr. Thomason asked how we anticipate the construction of the new trail and pedestrian crossing will affect the pedestrian traffic in the area. Mr. Thompson indicated that we anticipate residents will start using the new trail and safety crossing.

FUTURE BUSINESS

Mr. Eastes indicated that we will be presenting an update for the Facility Feasibility Study to the City Commission at the work session on January 10, 2017. Mr. Eastes encouraged the board to attend or view at home on Channel 3.

MISCELLANEOUS

Future 2017 meeting schedule was presented to the board.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Thompson is waiting to hear from Kansas State University (KSU) on whether they will be interested in assisting with the Warner Park Master Plan. Interviews have happened organically with a couple long term neighborhood residents. Mr. Eastes added that the City Commission had tabled the item. Mr. Klimek asked what the fall back plan for KSU not assisting with the park master plan. Mr. Thompson indicated that we would continue survey efforts and figure out the process for the remainder of the plan from the survey results. We know there is a desire to expand disc golf from the disc golf group. We would look to add parking and restrooms to accompany any disc golf expansion. The extent of the plan will determine when we are able to start the master plan internally. Mr. Thompson is currently

completing the design portion of the Lee Mill Heights project and completing the City Park Master Plan pending design elements with the Facility Feasibility Study at CiCo Park. Mr. Klimek asked about radius to the park and neighborhoods for the survey. Mr. Thompson shared the avenues we are utilizing to distribute the survey to the area. Mr. Eastes indicated that the previous survey occurred at a time when the Miller Ranch Homeowners Association did not exist. We know that HOA is interested in this process as well. Ms. Teener asked for an update from the Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee.

Meeting Adjourned.