

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
CITY COMMISSION ROOM
May 7, 2018 - 4:30 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Mr. Ed Klimek, Ms. Linda Teener, Mr. Dave Schafer, Mr. Mark Bachamp, and Mr. Darrell Edie.

Absent: Mr. Curt Herrman.

Employees present: Mr. Eddie Eastes, Director of Parks and Recreation; Mr. Randi Clifford, Recreation Director; Mr. Scott Shoemaker, Sunset Zoo Director; Ms. Susan Adams, Flint Hills Discovery Center Director; Ms. Melissa Kirkwood, Community Relations Officer; Mr. Wyatt Thompson, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation; Mr. Alfonso Leyva, Park Planner; and Mr. Casey Smithson, Park Superintendent.

MINUTES

Mr. Klimek called the meeting to order. It was moved by Ms. Linda Teener, seconded by Mr. Dave Schafer, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 2, 2018. On vote, motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Mark Bachamp arrived after approval of the minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NAMING OF THE PARK AT LEE MILL HEIGHTS

The park was acquired by the City over several years from Tim and Angie Schultz, the land developers building the surrounding subdivisions. Discussion began with developer, Roger Schultz, in December 2006 about parkland in the Lee Mill Heights area. The 1999 Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan called for parkland acquisition in developing areas of the community. City Administration and the City Commission were supportive of these efforts. The City Commission set a goal in 2008 to acquire an additional 32-34 acres of parkland to serve new growth areas in Manhattan.

Tim and Angie could not be at the meeting, but sent a letter supporting the naming of the park Roger Schultz Community Park. Ms. Teener asked if the naming followed the naming policy. Mr. Edie moved and Mr. Bachamp seconded, to recommend approval of the park at Lee Mill Heights being named the Roger Schultz Community Park. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

JOHNNY KAW BIRTHDAY

National Travel and Tourism Week is May 6 – 12. In coordination with the Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Friends of Johnny Kaw, we will be celebrating the 52nd birthday of Johnny Kaw. Events and activities will occur in City Park on May 10th between 5:00pm and 7:00pm.

PARKS AND RECREATION QUARTERLY REPORT

Parks and Recreation staff provided the board a quarterly report of projects, activities, and programs which was provided to the City Commission on May 1, 2018.

FACILITY TOUR

The department is working to coordinate a date that is mutually beneficial for board members and employees to provide a tour of all projects and some facilities. Mr. Eastes asked for input from the board. Mr. Bachamp asked for evening times. Mr. Edie indicated that Wednesday and Thursday were difficult for

the school board members. The tour will take three hours at a minimum. A strategic meeting will follow at a later date.

MONTHLY STAFF REPORT

Ms. Adams mentioned that storm spotter training was offered with National Weather Service in April. Amber Myers received the Rising Star Award at KC Awards Ceremony.

Ms. Kirkwood mentioned that a \$35,000 grant was received from NRPA for the Little Apple Day Camp program for nutrition and wellness. The department is starting a commitment to wellness initiative with the grant as well. Ms. Kirkwood also thanked community partners for their support.

Mr. Clifford mentioned that spring sports are up and running. The fields at Twin Oaks were opened up for practices this year prior to tournament and league season. This has been appreciated for all our local teams. Little Apple Core Challenge had nine teams participate this year. The Easter Family Fun Day was our largest family event to date with an estimated 2,000 in attendance. The Youth Outdoor Adventure Challenge was also well received by the public. Tournament season is picking up with better weather. Mr. Bachamp commented that more turf fields need to be installed for the community to improve playability and accessibility for more of our youth. Mr. Schafer asked about the expected life-cycle of the turf. Mr. Eastes indicated that the expected life cycle would be 8 to 10 years.

Mr. Leyva updated the board that the Fremont Pedestrian Improvement project is currently on hold due to easement issues. Old Blue River Trail project held a community meeting in April. Hoping to start the construction in September. The zoo parking lot project is scheduled for completion near the end of June due to utility conflicts. The irrigation and landscaping will be completed in house.

Mr. Smithson indicated that crews are busy completing projects. The Parks department will be helping with the Tuttle Creek Lake Association Fishing Derby in June. We also partner with KSU for Furniture Amnesty Day on July 27. We are still in need of employees for seasonal labor in Parks, must be 18 or older with a valid driver license.

Mr. Shoemaker shared that the zoo is hosting school groups during this time of year. Science on Tap on April 18th was well attended. Expedition Asia is in public fundraising campaign and information for donations is posted on sunsetzoo.com.

FUTURE BUSINESS

Mr. Eastes shared that Cheryl Collins from the Riley County Historic Board will be here at the June meeting to discuss the adoption of the Log Cabin in City Park to the historic register.

MISCELLANEOUS

Douglass Park Recreation Center naming discussion was presented as a future business item. Ms. Teener asked if the board could review the naming policy. Mr. Eastes shared that the Douglass Center Advisory Board would make a recommendation for naming to the City Commission for the new building.

Neighborhood Recreation Center Steering Committee meeting will be held on May 21, 2018. McCown-Gordon Construction is leading the meetings and the City will be available for answering questions.

The VMI Land tract is being discussed in a public meeting on May 24, 2018, and will be presented to the City Commission on June 5.

Mr. Klimek asked for an update on City Park Master Plan and Warner Park Master Plan.

Meeting Adjourned.