

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Thursday, July 20, 2017, 7 p.m.

ARC, 1701 W. Ash

MINUTES

Commission Present: Marin Blevins, Sue Davis, Dan Devine, Ted Farnen, Linda Hutton, Meredith Donaldson

Commission Absent (excused): Chad Henry

Staff Present: Erika Coffman, Gabe Huffington, Tammy Miller

Call to order: Blevins called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Agenda: The agenda was approved on a motion by Devine, seconded by Donaldson. Motion passed 6-0.

Minutes: The minutes were approved on a motion by Donaldson, seconded by Hutton. Motion passed 6-0.

Monthly Report: Huffington shared Park Services highlights: Fleet had 29 service calls, 19 tire replacements, 17 small equipment repairs and 18 mower repairs; sports turf crews completed first weekend of Show-Me Games and the Park Rangers responded to 41 percent of requests of police response to park locations.

Coffman shared Recreation Services highlights: ARC daily visits increased in the month of June, from 25,098 to 27,120. Total ARC memberships have also increased and personal training sessions have increased. Total number of CARE worksites is 82, an increase from 84 last summer.

Farnen commented that Lake of the Woods golf numbers looked really good for the month.

Coffman said that last summer the LOW Clubhouse was renovated so the numbers this year do look better. There are new customers and more students golfing.

Farnen asked about copper thefts?

Huffington said the thief has been taking copper from the wiring from the meters on the shelters. Meters have been reinforced and staff is working with the police and Crimestoppers to try to find thieves. The pump station at L.A. Nickell was out of service for two days because of the copper theft. Huffington commented that the cost to make repairs is much higher than value of the copper.

Devine asked about 61 warnings for advertising in parks?

Huffington said that may be a typo, he would check with the Ranger.

The monthly report was approved on a motion by Davis, seconded by Hutton. Motion passed 6-0.

Valleyview Park Improvements

Huffington described the project which would include playground replacement, new backstop and addition of ADA walkways. Park Sales Tax funding in the amount of \$60,000 would pay for the project. Matching funds will be provided by a grant from GameTime through the 2017 Show Me Healthy Communities Training and Funding Initiative. Huffington showed the proposed improvements. About 30 people recently attended an interested parties meeting, including Councilman Michael Trapp. Residents expressed interest in improving the park trail,

but there is no funding for it at this time. They were in support of other suggested improvements, Huffington said.

Farnen made a motion, seconded by Davis, that the Commission recommend approval of the Valleyview Park improvements to City Council. Motion passed 6-0.

Council Items

Huffington shared these updates:

Council approved the acquisition of the Overton property which would serve as a neighborhood park for the Creek Ridge subdivision. The new park is a secondary priority acquisition on the 2013 Park Master Plan.

Council also approved the new lights at Cosmo Park for soccer field #3 and football field #4. Huffington informed the Commission that two grants have been received for development of the agriculture park at Clary Shy. A \$400,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant (through the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program) will assist park development. A Missouri Foundation for Health Grant in the amount of \$700,000 will fund a mixture of capital funds, education, staffing and needs assessment study. Council will be asked to appropriate these funds.

Devine asked about staffing?

Huffington said the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture will handle that.

Farnen asked about entrances for the Overton property in relation to Stonehaven?

Huffington said that crossing Old Plank Road is a challenge.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission Report

Huffington said that at their recent meeting, the Commission made a request to hear plans for the Hinkson Creek Trail extension from Stephens Lake Park to Clark Lane. The project is funded for FY'20 and FY'21. The Commission also heard a report of the MKT bridges #5, #7 and #8. Geotech will be onsite doing preliminary work, which will cause closures for just a few hours.

Capital Project Report

Huffington shared these updates:

Albert-Oakland Pickleball: lights and shelter added.

American Legion Park: new playground in place.

Gans: concession building under construction.

Atkins: scoreboards and foul poles improved, new bullpens for black field.

Lake of the Woods: driving range under construction.

Douglass Park: skate spot nearing completion.

McKee Street Park: bridge completed, other renovations nearing completion.

William Bell Memorial at Stephens Lake Park: under construction.

Indian Hills Park: new roof on restrooms and new tee signs in place.

Waters House: reservations now open.

Cosmo Corner dedication: held at Nifong Park on June 8.

Recreation Services Report

Coffman shared these updates:

Fire in the Sky: about 30,000 in attendance.

SPLAT: About 1,120 kids registered for event. Event has grown each year through word of mouth and social media.

Movies in the Park: Moana shown on July 14.

Camp CoMo Kidz: more participants than usual in June, last five weeks of camp are full.

Camp Slime/ Computer Camp: held at Hillcrest Community Center.

Armory Summer Camp: formerly STARZ, camp is based at the Armory.

Douglass Baseball: season has ended for summer.

Smaller Ballers: session held in June, will resume in fall.

Lawn Chair Concerts at Douglass: recent performers are Kansas City Street Band and Kunama Mentadaji.

Optimist Park: Game Day held in cooperation with police and Optimist Club.

Adapted Recreation: holding summer activities, including ice dyed t-shirts.

CARE Gallery: mural being painted on MKT underpass tunnel at Stewart Road.

Golf: Family Nights have been held throughout the summer with great attendance.

Aquatics: been a busy summer, some pools will start closing in early August with students going back to school.

Upcoming Events: Family Splash Bash, SLP Amphitheater Concert Series, New Leisure Times, Wacky Water Olympics, Coolin' Down with the Blues, Family Fun Fest, Night Flight Glow Golf, Movies in the Park, Kaleidospoke and solar eclipse events.

Staff Comments

Huffington reminded the Commission that the August meeting will feature the annual budget presentation.

Commission Comments

Devine asked about the seam in the decking at Albert-Oakland?

Coffman said staff had looked at it, and will have to wait until after the pool season to repair it.

Donaldson commented that she had attended a community issues panel with County

Commissioner Janet Thompson, and parks were mentioned.

Farnen complimented staff on the signage at Hominy, saying it was improved. He mentioned that he and Director Mike Griggs had met with Presiding County Commissioner Fred Parry and MU Athletic Director Jim Sterk and Associate Director Sarah Riesman to get acquainted and discuss the Fairgrounds a bit. Farnen commented that it was valuable to meet and start a dialogue.

Davis asked if there were any plans for adding shade around Stephens Lake Park beach?

Huffington said yes, there will wind screens added around the area with shrubs. Those shrubs will be removed and grasses will be replanted there. The shrubs are causing debris and clogging spraygrounds filters.

Public Comments

None.

Next Meeting Date

August 17, 2017, 7 pm at the ARC.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.