

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Thursday, April 15, 2010, 7 p.m.

ARC, 1701 W. Ash

## MINUTES

**Commission Present:** Terry Kloepfel, Marin Blevins, Bill Pauls, Sue Davis, Meredith Donaldson

**Commission Absent:** Dan Devine

**Staff Present:** Mike Hood, Mike Griggs, Tammy Miller, Rosanna Arens, Becky Stidham

Kloepfel called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

**Agenda:** Hood requested that the Commission add the Maplewood Barn fire to the agenda as item 6A. The agenda was approved as amended on a motion by Blevins, seconded by Donaldson.

**Minutes:** The March minutes were approved on a motion by Pauls, seconded by Davis.

**Monthly Report:** The March monthly report was approved on a motion by Pauls, seconded by Donaldson.

### Special Presentation

Kloepfel presented a commemorative plaque to Gary Kesphol for his years of service on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Kesphol is leaving the Commission after being elected to the City Council in April.

### Photo Contest Awards

Hood and Kloepfel announced the winners of the First Photo Contest and presented prizes to the winners as the photos were displayed on screen. The winners are:

Category A: Parks and Recreation Facilities – Randy Hughes won first, second and third.

Category B: Trails – Lisa Fechter, first; David Rein, second; Randy Hughes, third.

Category C: Rec Programs, Sports, Events and Classes – Colleen McDevitt, first; Emma Beary, second; Colleen McDevitt, third

Category D: Faces and Activities – Rhiannon Trask, first; Lisa Fechter, second; Rhiannon Trask, third.

Category E: Landscape, Wildlife, and Nature – Rick Hansen won first, second and third.

Grand Prize Winner: Kelly Smith

### Rezoning – 1425 Hickory Street

This rezoning would be from M-1 to R-1. Field Park is located within a half-mile of Field Park. Griggs said the park would not be affected by the proposed rezoning.

**Pauls made a motion, seconded by Blevins, that the Commission recommend to Council that they see no adverse impacts to Field Park due to the rezoning. Motion passed 5-0.**

### Park Ranger Presentation

Park Ranger Arens made a presentation to the Commission about her job duties and the rules and regulations of the parks. She shared a bit about her background and some of the challenges she faces, namely that it is difficult for one full-time person to keep up with all that is happening in the parks system. She tries to emphasize customer service and tries to act as an ambassador in the parks as well as enforcing the rules.

Kloepfel asked how she determined whether to issue a warning or citation?

Arens responded that it depends on the situation and severity of offense. It also depends on if the offender breaks a rule intentionally or by not knowing. She said she issues many more warnings than she makes arrests.

Blevins commented that he thought Arens did a phenomenal job.

Arens thanked him and invited the Commission to ride along if they ever wished.

Kloeppel thanked Arens for being at the meeting and for the job she did.

### **Maplewood Barn Fire**

Hood distributed a report to the Commission detailing the fire that recently occurred at Maplewood Barn and steps that have been taken since then. The department had nothing stored in the barn, but the Community Theater group nearly lost everything they had. Staff is considering short-term solutions to help the group with their upcoming season, as well as long-term solutions as to how to replace the barn. Hood described the clean-up of the site that staff has been conducting, which includes repairing the stage and removing damaged trees, and eventually replacing those trees. The transformer on the side of the barn was damaged as well.

Griggs commented that Water and Light staff were on site that day and believe they can restore power but a panel box will be needed.

Hood added that the biggest needs right now besides restoring electricity were to identify a storage facility, changing rooms, and other immediate needs for the theater group.

Griggs said the theater group did have offers throughout the community for other performing venues, so there were backup plans in place.

Kloeppel asked if the barn would be rebuilt?

Hood answered that there were some concerns as to whether the location at Nifong Park was the best alternative, but there seemed to be overwhelming favor for it to be rebuilt at the same site.

### **Commission Budget**

Hood reminded the Commission that it was budget time, and the City Clerk's office would like to know if there would be requests for substantial changes to the commission's budget. The current budget is \$4,270.

Blevins asked about the NRPA Conference?

Hood said it would be in Minneapolis this year, and there may be funds for one or two Commissioners to attend.

**Donaldson made a motion, seconded by Blevins, that the Commission request the same amount for the FY'11 budget as in the FY'10 budget. Motion passed, 5-0.**

### **Park Names Discussion**

Hood told the Commission that there are proposed names for all three park sites as previously discussed. The Commission had already taken action on the Russell property by recommending that the name be Bonnie View Park, as desired by the Russell family.

Jeff Smith, donor of the Smith property, has requested that the 50-acre park be named for his deceased mother, the Norma Sutherland Smith Park.

Hood added that he met with Ron and Vicky Shy, who essentially made a \$1 million donation to the city of the property at Ash and Clinkscales. The Shys sold the tract to the City for \$1 million when it appraised at \$2 million. The Shys requested that the land be named the Clary-Shy Community Park.

**Pauls made a motion, seconded by Donaldson, that the Commission accept the names as presented by Hood and recommend to the Council that the names be adopted. Motion passed 5-0.**

### **Katy Place Connector Trail Alternate Alignment**

Hood showed a map of the proposed connector that would link the MKT Trail through the back of Katy Place Apartments off of Forum. This is a project funded by Get About Columbia funds. The connector was originally going to lead through a parking lot, but planners were uncomfortable with

that, so an alternate route has been proposed that would lead through wooded property. A hard-surface 8-foot connector trail is being proposed. The Parks and Recreation Commission has been asked for input.

Staff has flagged the route and Hood said if Commissioners would like to visit the site, they could. Commissioners indicated they would like to see the route and it was proposed that they meet on-site at 6 p.m. before the May 20 regular meeting.

### **Council Items**

Hood informed the Commission of these Council actions:

**Lange neighborhood park:** agreement has been signed and the project is moving forward.

**Gans Creek/Philips master plan update:** Planning and Zoning endorsed the master plan; they took the same actions the Parks and Recreation Commission had taken. Council will receive the recommendation at their meeting on Monday and will likely schedule it for a public hearing at the May 3 meeting.

**Catholic High School grading/drainage agreement:** the school is grading the site and has a need to extend their grading by a few feet onto the Philips property. Hood said staff wants to ensure the grading is done at a proper slope for mowing. He showed a map of the site that shows the grading area and silt work that is needed. The agreement with the school includes the school reseeding any areas that have been disturbed and correcting any erosion that occurs over a five-year period.

Donaldson asked about stormwater controls?

Hood said the school has to meet those as required by the City.

### **Capital Projects**

Griggs shared these updates:

**Rock Quarry Park:** the full basketball court is complete.

**Cascades:** a connecting walk to the neighborhood is complete and staff is reseeding and planting trees.

**Philips Lake Park:** concrete parking area is complete.

**Paquin Park:** planting beds are being raised to allow easier access for residents.

**Eastport Park:** single table shelters are being installed.

**Stephens Lake Park:** amphitheater sound stage is being constructed.

**Capen Park:** parking lot has new asphalt, curb and striping.

**Albert-Oakland Park:** pool leak is being repaired.

**MKT bridges:** construction is going well; #13 is nearly finished and #12 is going quickly.

**Douglass Park:** construction continues on sprayground.

**Brown Station Park:** site is being prepared for development.

**MKT Trail:** Treekeeper project occurred on March 20.

**Kiwanis Park:** Staff prepped the shelter for the Kiwanis Club who had a service day there on April 10. They did a lot of work on painting and cleaning up the park.

**PMC Greenhouse:** bedding plants are ready to be placed for the summer.

### **Recreation Services Update**

Hood shared updates on behalf of Erika Coffman, who is at an MPRA function:

**Easter EGGstravaganza:** annual free Easter egg hunt at Douglass drew more than 350.

**Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt:** second annual one that is held in collaboration with Parks and Recreation students from Mizzou; about 115 attended.

**Tons of Trucks:** event went well with more than 3,400 in attendance. Had nice, sunny weather for a change this year.

**Kite Flying Day:** annual free kite flying event at Douglass had good attendance.

**Moonlight Hoops:** registration period will end May 7, games will start June 15 at Douglass Park.

This year, sponsorships for youth teams have doubled, from 6 to 12 sponsors. More kids will be able to participate this year.

**Upcoming events:** Family Fun Fests will kick off April 21, WOW event April 30-May 1, Hershey Track and Field on May 1, Bike, Walk and Wheel Week May 1-7, Pitch, Hit and Run on May 8, U.S. Cellular Movies in the Park on May 14, Kids Bicycle Safety Challenge on May 15, Family Fun Fest on May 19 (Fitness is Fun sponsored by the ARC).

**Commission Comments**

None.

**Staff Comments**

Hood informed the Commission that the Discovery Garden project at Stephens Lake Park in honor of Mayor Hindman is underway. Ray Beck and Hank Waters are co-chairing the fund-raising drive.

**Public Comments**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.