

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Thursday, Oct. 20, 2005

Daniel Boone City Building, 701 E. Broadway

Mezzanine Conference Room

7:00 pm

MINUTES

Commission Present: Dan Devine, Bill Pauls, Terry Kloepfel, Larry Hine, Dennis Knudson, Julia Grus, Marin Blevins

Staff Present: Mike Griggs, Tammy Miller, Rosanna Arens

Meeting called to order at 7 pm by Devine.

Agenda: The agenda was amended to include a new rezoning review. The revised agenda was approved on a motion from Kloepfel, seconded by Knudson.

Minutes: The September minutes were approved on a motion from Kloepfel, seconded by Hine.

Monthly Report: Knudson asked why the special events numbers in the recreation report seemed to be rounded off. Griggs responded that it was typical to estimate special event counting, and added that sports participation was usually determined on a per game and per team basis.

Knudson asked about the difference in volleyball and women's softball numbers from last year to this year. Griggs said that there has been a decrease in women's softball enrollment, and an increase in co-rec softball. But he said that he would check with Gary Ristow for definitive answers.

Knudson added he would like more information on Douglass Park numbers. Blevins added that he had a question about enrollment in Oakland special programs.

Blevins added that he wondered about trout fishing at Cosmo-Bethel?

Griggs said staff had been working with the Missouri Department of Conservation to bring the program back.

The September monthly report was approved on a motion from Pauls, seconded by Hine.

Rezoning – Bearfield and Grindstone

Griggs said this rezoning is near the Rock Quarry and Capen parks. It's a standard request, and Griggs added that as long as stormwater controls were provided, he saw no adverse effect.

Hine moved to recommend that the developer be required to provide adequate stormwater drainage to protect both parks. Blevins seconded the motion.

All in favor: Devine, Pauls, Kloepfel, Knudson, Hine, Blevins, Grus

Motion carried.

Rezoning – 2940 South Maple Bluff Drive

Griggs told the Commission that this request completes a previous rezoning in Maple Bluff subdivision.

Kloepfel made a motion, seconded by Pauls, that the Commission agreed to inform the Council that they see no potential for adverse impact to parks or trails from the proposed rezoning.

All in favor: Devine, Pauls, Kloepfel, Knudson, Hine, Blevins, Grus

Motion carried.

Rezoning – Chapel Hill Drive and Mills Drive

Griggs said this request is near the MKT Trail parking lot off of Forum. He added he does not anticipate any effects to the MKT.

Hine made a motion, seconded by Blevins, that the Commission agreed to inform the Council that they see no potential for adverse impact to parks or trails from the proposed rezoning.

All in favor: Devine, Pauls, Kloepfel, Knudson, Hine, Blevins, Grus

Motion carried.

Park Ranger Report

Rosanna Arens shared information with the Commission regarding her position, how she carries out her duties, and described the types of calls and issues she deals with in the park system. She added that Stephens Lake Park has presented new challenges this year. Other issues have to do with pets off-leash, juveniles at the Skate Park and parking issues, particularly at Cosmo Park.

Blevins and Hine complimented Arens on the job she did.

Kloepfel asked about her hours?

Arens responded that she switches up from time to time, based on need.

Pauls asked about the crowding of the fields at Cosmo, particularly if any of the fields should be dedicated to open play?

Griggs responded that the fields are intended to be for game use only. The maintenance of them is funded through user fees. He said that at one time the department tried opening a couple of fields for practices and found that play spilled over onto other fields. He added that the answer to more practice fields may be to place goals on open play spaces at other parks.

Pauls said it would be nice to accommodate both youth teams and adult teams as well.

Arens added that she does provide information to park users about spaces in other parks, if they are looking for a place to practice in Cosmo.

Pauls asked Arens if there was anything Park Patrol volunteers could do to make her job easier?

Arens answered that she could always use help with parking and traffic at Cosmo at special events and on Saturday mornings.

Pauls suggested the Citizens on Patrol, a volunteer group trained by the Police Department, may be an appropriate source for her to contact.

Ballot Issue

Miller informed the Commission on the Mayor's Committee and its promotion of all city issues on the ballot Nov. 8. She said the group has set up a Web site called columbiaonthemove.org to share information. Miller also passed out fact sheets that had been prepared by the City Manager's office.

Capital Projects Update

Griggs shared project updates:

Reichmann Pavilion at Stephens Lake Park is coming along nicely with concrete work going on. The entrance to the park at Broadway is also about complete.

The concession stand at Antimi has been demolished and the contractor is working on a two-story building to replace it.

At Paquin, CDBG funding helped to pay for fence replacement, a new shelter and basketball court.

Indian Hills Park now has a new shelter.

Commission Comments

Grus asked if we had heard anything from the County Commission since the discussion at the September meeting?

Griggs and Miller indicated they had not.

Pauls asked when the County Commission met?

Miller said she would find out and would let them know.

Knudson commented he had recently heard compliments about the ARC from some older residents who had used the facility for the first time.

Devine asked if there was anything new related to the Atkins property?

Griggs said no, he had heard nothing recently about that.

Pauls asked if there was a time limit on the grant for the county on the Atkins property?

Griggs said yes, but they would likely seek an extension.

Knudson remarked that he would like to meet at the new day camp building at Stephens Lake Park when it is complete.

Knudson asked about the trail extension connecting Grindstone and Stephens Lake?

Griggs said the RFP is being prepared, and an engineer will be hired.

Knudson then asked if parks staff planned to install bike racks at Stephens Lake?

Griggs said that had been overlooked but it would be completed.

Staff Comments

Griggs told the Commission that the City Council had approved updates to the Neighborhood Parks and Trails & Greenbelts portions of the Master Plan with only one change from previous recommendations discussed by the Commission. The City Council added another neighborhood park in the western part of town off of Strawn Road. A large development is planned for that area.

Miller reminded the Commissioners of a reception planned by the Mayor's Office for Boards and Commissions on November 3.

Public Comments

Hine said he had received a call from a neighbor who had been picking up walnuts at Stephens Lake for years, and now has been asked not to do that.

Griggs said that under city ordinance, nothing can be taken from city parks, whether it is trees, plants or walnuts. He said the department had received complaints about the walnut-gatherer, because he is selling them for profit.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.