

Park & Recreation Board Meeting
Monday, January 13, 2014
Minutes

Members Present: William Ramsey, Michael MacDonald, Patrick Carroll, Charlie Bruckner

Members Absent: Shirley Davis, Karen Harant, Russell Motschenbacher

Staff Present: Marty Basta, Patty Rearden, John Smith, Cindy Stein

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm.

With no additions or corrections to the minutes from December, Board motioned to approve as written. Motion seconded and approved.

Director Report

- Next Fee Summit with Commissioners is scheduled for January 21st to discuss Mansfield Events and Recreation Center fees.
- Westbank Park is within the Urban Renewal District and Park and Recreation is preparing a proposal for \$280,000 in Tax Increment funds to be used for a new irrigation system in the park.
 - Board asked whether the fly fishing group is still interested in putting in a course in Westbank Park and if so it was suggested that it be done prior to the new irrigation installation.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

The New Old Bridge. Mike Dalton Executive Director of Sunburst Unlimited (Westside Community Orchard); Mike was not present, so Marty showed the Board a mockup proposal of what the 10th Street Bridge would be like if there were green houses, tree nursery and the Rivers Edge Trail on it.

- Board brought up the fact that there is still the traffic problem, no where to park and also the smell from the refinery that is not going to disappear.

Pool Fees

Staff cannot wait until spring to set pool fees.

- Board received the resolution on setting the pool fees scheduled to be on the next Commission meeting to set a public hearing. This process will take 2 Commission meetings and staff is under a time restraint with their Summer Guide deadline and having the new fees in the guide.
 - One Commission meeting to set the public hearing; another Commission meeting to conduct the public hearing and approve or deny the resolution.
- The fees are not and will never be self sustaining, will wait to see what level of support the commission provides this year.

Board motioned to approve the resolution to increase pool fees; motion approved and carried. **

**Board is against the non-resident fee portion of the resolution and would like to have it removed. Enforcing will cost more than the additional revenue brought in.

Miscellaneous Reports & Announcements

Patty Rearden, Deputy Director

- The Community Recreation Center organized the Electric City Winter Classic Basketball Tournament for 6th, 7th & 8th grade boys and girls held last weekend. 48 teams participated from around the state.
- The Community Recreation Center is sponsoring six small basketball tournaments to be held in January, February and March at the Community Recreation Center.

John Smith, Park Supervisor

- New smoke free area signs are ready to be put in by play structures in parks. Board approved the signs at an earlier meeting.
- Park Division is applying for a Community Development Block Grant to replace the last wooden play structure in Dudley Anderson Park.

Marty Basta, Director

- Calumet has donated \$50,000 to Park and Recreation for the next three years for a total of \$150,000; funds to be used for Park and Recreation only.

Board

- Board questioned Scheels using Wadsworth Park after Board denied their request at their last meeting.
 - Staff explained that after the meeting they were informed that this type of activity has been going on for quite some time without our knowledge (other companies) for canoe and kayak's etc. Scheels appealed their request and we agreed to allow them to hold their ice fishing demonstration.
 - Board would like to see better control of commercial activities within the parks.

Public

- Mayor Winters arrived to wish everyone on the board a happy new year.
- Mayor Winters informed the board that the "Vietnam Wall That Heals" is going to be in Great Falls July 23-27; the Mayor is seeking support and sponsorship from the City.
- Mark Willmarth with the Lions Club updated the board on the fundraiser for the Climbing Wall at Lions Park. Goal was to raise \$30,000 with the City offering \$10,000 from the Park Trust (approved at earlier Park Board meeting); they should be at their goal by end of the month.
 - Wall Height will be 12'; this is the maximum for the type of landing material being used.

With no further business meeting adjourned at 4:25pm.