

Park & Recreation Board Meeting
Monday, December 9, 2013
Minutes

Members Present: Charlie Bruckner, Russell Motschenbacher, Patrick Carroll, Shirley Davis, Michael McDonald, Karen Harant

Members Absent: William Ramsey

Staff Present: Marty Basta, Patty Rearden,

Board motioned to accept the minutes as written, motion seconded and carried

Directors Report

Marty Basta, Director

- Replacing concrete slab at Broadwater Bay with the left over funding received from the River Fund Grant.
- Tuesday was the Fee Summit with the City Commission.
 - This summit is an exercise that we are going through with the City Commission on all fees the City charges.
 - Completed Visitor Center, Pools and Golf Courses.
 - Still have Community Recreation Center and Mansfield Center to review.
 - Commission will make the decision on how much general fund support the Park and Recreation Department will receive.
 - The Commission expects the golf course to be self sustained; they also understand that pools will never be self sustained.

Old Business

Gibson Park Events Center

Doug Oswood, with Oswood Construction has been meeting with Mayor Winters and Marty on a proposal of an Events Center at Gibson Park, this events center will replace the existing Park and Ponder facility.

- Concern that since it is a private entity on prime city parkland that it can propose a lot of problems with the public.
- Mr. Oswood will own the facility and leave the property as proposed.
- Board reviewed the conceptual design.

Westhill Park Encroachment

Jesse Patton, public works engineering, provided an update on the encroachments at Westhill Park. Jesse looked for property pins; blue circles are property pins that were located and on larger map where the airport and interstate runs. There were a few vehicles, trailers, etc outside the boundaries.

- We will notify the property owners to move their stuff
- Marty to contact the airport and see if there is any interest in them purchasing the property.
- Property is unusable for parkland or anything else.
- There are areas where pins cannot be found.
- There was a road through the back of the housing at one time but was re-plotted and dedicated as parkland.
- Contact the Police Department on identifying the boats/cars/trailers that are encroaching on parkland.

New Business

Swimming Pool Financials Review

Patty provided a report of the last 15 years on pools and how the general fund support has changed over the years. 2014 is when we will see the major cuts in support due to the Electric City Power settlement; 2016 the flow rider debt will be paid off;

- We had been building up cash reserves over the past few years
- 2014 they will be expended completely and we will be totally dependent on general fund support
- Minimum wage has increased every year
 - January 2014 minimum wage increases to \$7.90
- Worst case scenario is when minimum wage increases and general fund support decreases.
- Pool fee increases will never solve our problem, we could never charge enough
- Reviewed each pool separately
- June 2012 - July 2013 there were 1,128 kids who took swimming lessons
- Fee review is scheduled with the Commission the end of January.

Grande Vista Playground Equipment

Marty received an email from a citizen asking him to forward the photo of one single slide in Grande Vista Park and asking for consideration to add additional play equipment from the Park Board.

- Sent him a Park Trust Grant application, have not received any response back
- Meadowlark Park is not that far from Grand Vista Park and there is a play structure there.

Swans

John Smith informed the Board that Park Maintenance has received a donation of \$2,500 for the purchase of a pair of black swans and a pair of Australian Swans. Swans will arrive from Florida in the spring.

Miscellaneous Reports/Announcements

Todd Seymanski, City Forester

- Leaf drop was late this year and set the schedule back
- Christmas tree is up in front of the Civic Center
- Lights are all up at Overlook Park

John Smith, Park Maintenance

- Keeping up with snow removal
- Have been checking the pond for ice depth so they can get out and clean it for ice skating.

Shirley Davis thanked the Park Maintenance crew for keeping the trail free of snow

Snow shoeing at Eagle Falls will continue this year. Have not heard from the parties that set the trail.

Bake Sale and Cookbook Sales went very well at the Natatorium on November 27th. So far they have raised over \$5,000 in bake sales, t-shirt sales and now cookbook sales. All revenue goes into the "Nat Fund" in People's Park & Recreation Foundation and is tax deductible.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:15pm.

Shirley Davis will be absent in January and February.