

CITY-COUNTY PARKS BOARD

MINUTES

February 4, 2015

Noon

City-County Building, room 426

CALL TO ORDER

11:39 A.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Doyle, John Carter, Ross Johnson. Dave Payne, Nyle Howsmon, Jane Kollmeyer, Melissa Lewis were excused.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

County Commissioner Susan Good-Geise

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Craig Marr, Liz Jones, Matt Heimel, Carol Kirkland

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND REVIEW OF AGENDA

A quorum was not present.

CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

The January 7, 2015, minutes were deferred to the March 4, 2015, meeting.

COMMENTS FROM PERSONS PRESENT:

PRESENTATIONS – Babe Ruth Baseball reported on the 2014 season including 60 teams and business partners and also its work with Small Fry Football with 600 kids. Small Fry uses the fields August through October. There were also tournaments with 101 teams total participating. Babe Ruth is also working on a relationship with the American Legion B Team and their use of the field. Babe Ruth has also been approached about the formation of an adult baseball team using the field. They were discussing compensation for those uses and noted all the vandalism that has occurred and the cost of repairs. There has been a large upgrade of lights, the field entirely fenced, and sprinklers added. They are also discussing ways to improve parking and access as well as deterioration of the roads which are paved with millings from highway projects. They will be working with the county on that project. The county commission did not fund the \$6500 request for additional maintenance funds for last year. Babe Ruth spends about \$35,000 a year to fertilize, mow, repair irrigation, and spray weeds. They have been offered a donation for a scoreboard at the park in memory of someone and may try to put together a match for a couple of other boards. They are also considering installing shade structures and batting cages in the future.

DISCUSSION ITEMS – Pat Doyle will attend the February 23 city commission meeting to support the tobacco-free parks resolution.

ACTION ITEMS –

PARKS BOARD/2
February 15, 2015

REPORTS

CITY – Craig reported he will be working on a trail work priority plan for bike and asphalt trails with maintenance to be contracted. Amy continues working on the Sixth Ward garden park with some work to be done this spring. Staff is working on 2016 budgets. He has worked on a snow removal priority plan and also on an emerald ash borer awareness plan with county extension agent Brent Sarchet for a presentation around Arbor Day. He will also be working to fill vacancies on maintenance staff. The bike park group is gearing up for work on the bike park, and parks staff is refurbishing tables, benches, and signs. The oversized shed at Selma Held Park has been moved to Waukesha gardens and unsafe play equipment removed from Peanut Park. He is also working on operating procedures for a joint well for parks and the school district.

COUNTY – Matt reported the county has received two open space conservation applications in the Augusta area.

HOLMAC –

LINCOLN –

RECREATION – Liz reported the ice rink is closed for the season. She is working on her budgets and summer programs and staffing including the pool. She has also scheduled the first state all-women's triathlon on July 8. The YMCA does training to become a certified lifeguard, so those interested in becoming lifeguards should contact the Y. Amy has asked her to look into surfacing the Memorial ice rink to get more year-round use.

MAINTENANCE –

FAIR BOARD -

PLAYABLE PLAYGROUND – Stacy reported fund raising projects are going full speed ahead. She is also involved with Sixth Ward park play area design and waiting to hear on Kaboom grants. Plans are ongoing for a 'father-daughter' dance.

BIKE HELENA – Pat reported the 2015 media plan is finalized. There will be a shuttlefest up to McDonald Pass again in August and a brewfest in the park. Bike Helena has applied for a grant for the University of North Carolina to conduct an economic impact study of mountain biking on the community. The Helena hotel room occupancy rate was higher last year than 2013.

SCHOOL DISTRICT – John Carter noted the school district still working on bond issues.

OTHER -

COMMUNICATIONS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (BOARD MEMBERS)

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE: March 4, 2015

FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS: wells vs. city water; artificial turf; La Casa Grande

ADJOURN – 12:39 P.M.

Carol Kirkland
Recorder