

**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**JUNE 27, 2017**

**APPROVED BY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD ON JULY 25, 2017**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department Board meeting held June 27, 2017 was called to order by President Reggie St. John at 1802 hours.

Roll call was taken hours with eight board members present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President – Reggie St. John; Vice President – Scott Smith; Secretary – Christy Marker; Treasurer – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Don Ledford; Lynette Manley; Susan McAuliffe; Jake Simmons

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** none

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON:** Sharon Powell

**STAFF PRESENT:** Nate Williams, Director; Chad Clevenger, Parks Superintendent; Kendra Beaver, Recreation Coordinator; Janet Morehead, Administrative Assistant – Parks and Recreation

**VISITOR:** Jason Cole; Bryce Mereness, The Excelsior Springs Standard arrived at 1855 hours.

President Reggie St. John called for the consideration of the agenda.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Don Ledford, Lynette Manley, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John, Jake Simmons Nays – 0

Nate Williams introduced Kendra Beaver. Kendra is the new Recreation Coordinator. She started June 19, 2017. She interned with the Department last summer and is thrilled to be here. She loves all the parks and trails that the Department has. Kendra left at 1805 hours to go to ball games and take pictures.

Jason Cole addressed the Board on not being reappointed to the Parks and Recreation Board. Jason Cole left the meeting at 1826 hours.

At 1830 hours the board meeting was paused so that the board members could fill their plates. Thanks to Sherri Branson-Hurt for bringing food!

Parks and Recreation Board meeting commenced at 1844 hours.

Christy Marker made the motion to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2017 Parks and Recreation Board meeting as presented. Jake Simmons seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Don Ledford, Lynette Manley, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John, Jake Simmons Nays – 0

After questions were asked and answered about the Financial Report, Susan McAuliffe made the motion to accept the financial report dated May 31, 2017 and prepared June 5, 2017. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Don Ledford, Lynette Manley, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John Nays – 0

Election of Officers was held. Officers elected for 2016-2017 are: President – Reggie St. John; Vice President – Scott Smith; Secretary – Christy Marker; Treasurer – Sherri Branson-Hurt.

Bryce Mereness, Excelsior Springs Standard, arrived at 1855 hours.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Vandalism in the parks was discussed. There has been graffiti at Kent and Outlook Park. “Alias” painted over it with paint that was on hand and before he could get it repainted, it was graffitied again. Doggie pot plastic bag rolls were unrolled and strung through the park, and a pole that held the plastic bags was pulled up and thrown into the bushes. The Linear Park Trail sign was damaged. One of the park rules signs at Century was ripped off of the pole and looked as if it had been used to stir the charcoal in the grill. Most everything could be repaired or salvaged.

Don Ledford asked about the buzzard issue in East Valley Park. The Department would like to see them move up the hill and away from the trail. The Department has spread lime over the buzzard manure before special events to help neutralize the odor. The Department of Conservation has been contacted and Nate is waiting on a reply. Nate has also contacted a colleague and is awaiting a reply. As the birds multiply, and since they have multiplied, the buzzards roost smell has become an issue.

Don Ledford asked about when Sunnyside Park playground might be open. Between the

multiple storms, storm damages and clean up from them, being shorthanded, vandalism and repairs and the mowing season in full swing, Chad Clevenger was hoping to have it back open within the week – BUT that depends on the weather, vandalism and repairs, etc.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Revenue Committee will meet July 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. That committee consists of Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Scott Smith and Reggie St. John as ex officio member.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The dog park was discussed. Sharon Powell suggested that the Parks and Recreation Board discuss and make a formal request for the property that is just south of Century Park. Included should be a proposal and use layout for the land. The Department should then present it to the city Council, or she (Sharon) could present it to the City Council.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Nate Williams presented the Parks and Recreation Department's Annual Report to the City Council on June 19, 2017. A copy was given to board members and discussion was held.

Board members received a passport for the Parks and Recreation month "Get Your Play On". The passport is geared to get everyone out to enjoy the parks. If you have 8 activities checked off, you will be eligible to win a prize! GET YOUR PLAY ON!

Nate wanted the Board to know that he will be attending the National Recreation and Parks Conference, September 25-29, 2017 in New Orleans. The Young Professionals Network will meet on September 25, 2017.

The Parks and Recreation Foundation met and decided on a theme and dates. The theme is "Be Our Guest". Presale party is January 12, 2018. April 7, 2018 is the Piccadilly.... "Be Our Guest".

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Christy Marker and Sharon Powell will not be able to attend the July 25, 2017 Parks and Rec Board meeting.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to go into closed session Pursuant to Section 610.021 RSMo. (3) Personnel. Scott Smith seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show

of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Don Ledford, Lynette Manley, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John  
Nays – 0

At 1953 hours the Board meeting took a short break before going into closed session.

At 1956 hours, Sherri Branson-Hurt made to motion to go into the closed session after the short break. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Don Ledford, Lynette Manley, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John  
Nays – 0

At 2034 hours, Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to come out of closed session. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Don Ledford, Lynette Manley, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John  
Nays – 0

At 2035 hours Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Scott Smith seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Don Ledford, Lynette Manley, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John  
Nays – 0

Meeting adjourned at 2035 hours.