

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

JULY 23, 2024

**THIS IS A DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON
AUGUST 27, 2024**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting held July 23, 2024 at the Excelsior Springs Community Center was called to order by President Jake Simmons at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken with eight board members present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President - Jake Simmons, Vice President - Patrick Halfhill; Brandon Block; Sherri Branson-Hurt; Scott Buckman; Mark Bullimore; Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins

MEMBER ABSENT: Terri Irons

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON: Reggie St. John

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON: Eric Marshall

STAFF PRESENT: Nate Williams – Director; Drake Pollard – Assistant Director - Recreation/Programs; Taran Svoboda – Assistant Director - Administration; Chad Clevenger – Manager - Parks and Open Space; Janet Morehead – Administrative Assistant

Alexis Blankenship arrived at 7:15 pm

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Scott Buckman seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Mark Bullimore, Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Willkins Nays – 0

VISITORS: none

Zac Wilkins made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2024 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting as presented. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Mark Bullimore, Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

Discussion was held on the Naviline Financial Reports dated June 17, 2024. Questions were asked and answered.

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to accept the Balance Sheet dated 7/16/2024 Accounting Period 09/2024, page 1; Detail Budget Report by Category dated 7/16/2024 for Accounting Period 9/2024, pages 1 - 4; Revenue Report dated 7/16/2024 for Accounting Period 9/2024, pages 1 - 2 as presented.

Zac Wilkins seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Mark Bullimore, Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

STAFF REPORTS

No questions on the Parks Maintenance Report.

Alexis Blankenship is at the Parks and Rec month Family Sports Night at Miracle Field. Youth sports were discussed. Parks and Rec month was discussed.

FEAT Performance had 275 attendees in June. Two-day-a-week agility was offered in July.

The Director's Report is emailed on Fridays.

Rainbow Splash Park has had good attendance this summer. Last scheduled day to be open is August 18, 2024.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Parks Committee met at 5:00 before tonight's meeting to discuss and present a name for the park on Milwaukee Street. Discussion was held on the names submitted online, if naming criteria was followed, etc. After much discussion, three names were chosen to present to the Parks and Rec Board. Our Backyard; Oak Haven Park; Boundless Park.

Discussion was held on the potential names for the park on Milwaukee Street. Additional names were discussed.

After continued discussion, Mark Bullimore made the motion to name the park on Milwaukee Street - Boundless BackYard. Patrick Halfhill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Mark Bullimore, Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

The Finance Committee will meet in August to review the FY 2024-2025 Budget. The Parks and Rec Board will review and vote on it at the meeting. Committee members are Scott Buckman, Terri Irons, and Zac Wilkins. Jake Simmons is an ex-officio member of all boards.

OLD BUSINESS

As Parks and Rec month comes to a close in a week, there have been over 300 youth participants as of noon today. The activities have been funded by donations.

NEW BUSINESS

The Siloam Springs Park signage will be installed on the large rock that Chad Clevenger secured for the park. Be on the lookout for an announcement for the Dedication Ceremony.

Nate Williams shared pictures through the years from 2016 to present at Boundless BackYard.

Nate Williams shared in the Board Packet, emails that he has been exchanging with Phillp Scherer in regards to building a single track dirt trail 24 - 30" wide for mountain biking and hiking. It would utilize: Phase 1: 105 acres between Golf Hill Drive and 10 highway; Phase 2: 38 acre tract north of Old Time Drive and Phase 3: 26 acres of Siloam Mountain Park. This trail system would be built and maintained mostly by volunteers.

There would be an insurance cost of \$700 annually through Urban Trail Company (UTC).

A Memo of Understanding (MOU) would need to be completed.

Downtown Excelsior Partnership (DEP) is interested in bringing back the Opal Wapoo Race, which would be similar users to the trail system.

In Phase 3, Chad Clevenger has concerns about the Isley Park Woods Natural Area and the backyards of houses.

Election of Officers was held. Officers elected for 2024-2024 are: President - Jake Simmons; Vice President - Kyle Uptegrove; Secretary - Terri Irons.

Alexis Blakenship arrived at 7:15.

2024-2025 committees will stay the same:

Revenue/ Budget - Scott Buckman, Terri Irons, Zac Wilkins

Recreation - Mark Bullimore, Patrick Halfhill, Kyle Uptegrove

Parks - Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Zac Wilkins

Jake Simmons, as ESPR Board President, serves as an ex-officio member of each committee.

OPEN DISCUSSION - none

Zac Wilkins made the motion to adjourn the July 23, 2024 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Kyle Uptegrove seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0.

A show of hands vote was taken: motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Mark Bullimore, Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Willkins Nays – 0

President Jake Simmons adjourned the July 23, 2024 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting at 7:26 p.m.