

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 28, 2019

THIS IS A DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON JUN 25, 2019

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting held May 28, 2019 was called to order by President Reggie St. John at 1803 hours.

Roll call was taken with eight board members present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President – Reggie St. John; Secretary – Zac Wilkins; Treasurer – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Patrick Halfhill; Don Ledford; Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith

MEMBER ABSENT: Jake Simmons

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON: absent

VISITOR: Kimberly Blackburn, The Excelsior Springs Standard

STAFF PRESENT: Nate Williams – Director; Chad Clevenger – Parks Superintendent; Janet Morehead – Administrative Assistant; Alexandria Barns, Intern

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

Reggie St. John informed the Board of two corrections for the April 23, 2019 minutes. 1) Scott Smith should be listed in the “Members Present” instead of Susan McAuliffe and 2) projected Piccadilly date is April 18, 2020 instead of April 18, 2019.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2019 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting with the aforementioned corrections. Don Ledford seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Don Ledford, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John, and Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

The Financial Report was discussed. Various questions were asked and answered.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to accept the Financial Report and FY 2018-2019 Budget Report dated April 30, 2019 and prepared May 8, 2019 as presented. Don Ledford seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Don Ledford, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

STAFF REPORT

Nate Williams introduced the Board to the Family Concepts book promotion that the Department is sponsoring. Sponsors will be listed in the book. The books will be given to kindergartners at Westview and Lewis. It is a two year contract.

Weather is playing havoc with mowing and projects.

Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department and the Excelsior Springs Community Center are offering summer school type activities in June and July because the Excelsior Springs School District is not offering summer school. Some of the activities will be free (morning activities) while others will have a cost associated with them (afternoon activities).

“Game On” is the theme for the National Parks and Recreation Association’s Park and Rec month. The youth activities will be built around this theme also. Information is being sent to the schools for interested students.

Sherri Branson-Hurt suggested having PE teachers talk about this summer program at awards days or field days. Utilize retired PE teachers as volunteers/instructors/assistants.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Parks Committee met on May 14 at 6:00 pm at the Community Center. Susan McAuliffe, Don Ledford, Reggie St. John, Chad Clevenger and Nate Williams were in attendance.

Priority park projects were discussed – Century Bark, the Splash Park, and Milwaukee Street Park. The Grand Opening for Century Bark is June 8, 2019 at 4pm. The splash park is on hold until word is received about the Land and Water Conservation Grant. Putting in a drive and planting butterfly gardens were discussed for Milwaukee Street Park.

The Strategic Plan of 2016 with a five year was discussed. Projects were discussed and checked off. The Strategic Plan will need to be updated and maybe a ten year plan discussed.

OLD BUSINESS

Chad Clevenger informed the Board that Eddie Raper Park is used almost nightly for soccer or baseball/softball practice with 2 to 4 teams practicing there each evening during those seasons.

Chad then updated the Board on the Eddie Raper Park improvements. More soil and sand was added to the infield of Field # 1 to improve the drainage. That being said, we have had lots of rain this spring. The swing set and slide was moved from the west to east part of Eddie Raper Park. The weather is beating us up this spring.

The Grand Entrance Sign for Eddie Raper Park is in the process of being painted.

The asphalt for the parking lot will still be included with the area asphalt projects and the maintenance crew will repair the concrete curb of the parking lot before the asphalt is poured.

A swing set has been installed in East Valley Park. Borders and mulch still need to be put down.

Big flat rocks from the Golf Course are being used at Century Bark. A flower garden has been built and the Century Bark sign has been installed.

The skate structures at the Regent Park Skate Park will be painted. The paint is a roll on with specific instruction of how to prep the structure for the paint.

Engineered wood fiber was ordered for fall protection for the play structures and swing set areas.

Targeted areas along the walk trails will be milled and patched.

NEW BUSINESS

Alexandria Barns attended Northwest Missouri State University and was introduced as the Department's intern for the summer. She is from Palmyra. Alexandria is rotating through all the areas of the Parks and Recreation Department and the Community Center gaining valuable hands on experience.

The Century Bark Grand Opening will be June 8, 2019 at 4:00 pm. There will be a Leash Cutting and a dedication ceremony. The Maintenance Crew has done a phenomenal job building the park, structures and amenities. All of the dog play/agility structures were fabricated in the shop.

The food truck, Road Kill Café, will be at the Century Bark Grand Opening.

Due to the threat of severe weather, the closed session will be rescheduled.

In the conversation that Reggie St. John had with Molly McGovern, City Manager, employees will be getting a 1.7% cost of living and could receive a merit raise of up to 5% without the City Council's approval. If a grade or step is involved then there is additional duties, reports, etc that will need to be added to the job description.

OPEN DISCUSSION – none

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Christy Marker seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Don Ledford, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John, Zac Wilkins
Nays – 0

The May 28, 2019 Parks and Recreation Board meeting was adjourned at 1902 hours.