

# EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 21, 2016

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department Board meeting held June 21, 2016 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Reggie St. John.

Roll call was taken with seven members present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President – Reggie St. John; Vice President – Scott Smith; Treasurer – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Jason Cole; Lynette Manley; Jody Pasalich; Jake Simmons

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON:** Brad Eales

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

**VISITOR:** Bryce Mereness, Sports Editor – The Excelsior Springs Standard

Parks and Recreation Board President Reggie St. John called for the consideration of the agenda.

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jody Pasalich seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 7 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Jason Cole, Lynette Manley, Jody Pasalich, Jake Simmons, Reggie St. John, Scott Smith Nays – 0

Bryce Mereness introduced himself. He is the Sports Editor at The Excelsior Springs Standard.

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2016 Parks and Recreation Board meeting as presented. Jody Pasalich seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0 – 1. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Jason Cole, Lynette Manley, Jody Pasalich, Jake Simmons, Reggie St. John Nays – 0 Abstained – 1 – Scott Smith – He was not at the May 17, 2016 Parks and Recreation Board meeting.

After questions were asked and answered about the financial report, Sherri Branson-Hurt

made the motion to accept the financial report dated May 31, 2016 and prepared June 1, 2016. Jody Pasalich seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes – 7 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Jason Cole, Lynette Manley, Jody Pasalich, Jake Simmons, Reggie St. John, Scott Smith Nays – 0

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Nate was asked about the Rocky Hollow ballfields situation. Everything is good. Nate had been asked to pay for part of the electricity installation and use and he politely declined because the Parks and Recreation Department has no need for electricity at the Rocky Hollow ballfields.

The Maintenance Worker 1 and Park Ranger positions have been filled. There still is a part time maintenance worker position open.

There have been three Job Corps students working with Chad Clevenger and the crew.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS – none**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Nate Williams discussed the final document of the 2016 Parks and Recreation Department Strategic Planning report. Steve Sellers suggested a few small changes i.e. changing low to lower on the level of priority, etc. It was suggested to change the prices to say estimates and not quote specific dollar amounts.

Nate asked for the Board's opinion if this Strategic Planning Report was ready to be made public. Consensus is that is ready to be made public with those small changes.

Nate reported on the Capital Improvement Authority projects. The Highway 69 walk trail and the Sunnyside Park parking area have been overlaid with just a few bumps along the way.

The Piburn Field bleacher project is close to completion. Dugout benches need to be set and bleachers for seating need to be ordered. Jim E. Piburn Field is to be painted on the concrete wall.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Nate sent the bid packet proposal for Sports Officials to three people. He received two responses back – one with a bid and the other was no thank you. He did not hear from the third person.

Nate has included a cost comparison of how officials are currently paid versus the

proposal from the Liberty Sports Officials.

The Department would give the Liberty Sports Officials a list of games and number of officials needed. The Liberty Sports Officials would assign the officials and be responsible for them. The Department would be invoiced for payment and then Liberty Sports Officials would pay the officials. The Department would still be responsible for hiring the game supervisors. The officials that work for the Parks and Recreation Department could apply for an officials position with the Liberty Sports Officials.

Scott Smith asked how much control or influence would the Department have over the Liberty Sports Officials? Nate replied that the Department's rules would have to be followed and the Department could not tell them who to hire but the Department could tell them that a specific person could not work in the Department's leagues.

Reggie St. John said that since it is under \$10,000 then the Board does not have to approve it.

Quinten Denney has been hired as the full time Maintenance 1 worker and David Wright has been hired as the part time ranger. There is a part time seasonal job still open.

Nate included a Travel Advance Report to the National Recreation and Park Association Conference in St. Louis this October. The Board appreciated Nate letting them know he would be attending the National Conference and by general consensus approved it.

The Mayor and City Council issued a Proclamation announcing that Excelsior Springs was designated a 2016 Playful City USA Community by KaBoom. Nate will be in contact with MoDot to get regulations for hanging the Playful City USA signs hung at the city limits.

Please wear your Parks and Rec month t-shirts to next month's meeting.

Nate announced that Kendra Beaver, intern, will be finishing her internship this Friday but will stay on to supervise youth ball, work the Art in the Park, Storytime in the Park, and the Parks and Rec month activities.

An overview map of Eddie Raper Park shows where the proposed dog park could be located. The area is 150' x 200' and would be broken down into two parks – one for larger dogs and one for smaller dogs. Nate will meet with the Scouts that are interested in the dog park for their Eagle Scout Project. Amenities would include benches, dogipots for waste, water, etc.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Sherri Branson-Hurt has had reports that the porta-potty at Century Park is always in

need of cleaning when the park is reserved. She has been asked if there would ever be a permanent restroom built at Century Park.

Brad Eales replied that discussion had been held on installing a pressurized system (lift station) for the restrooms to be able to attach them to the sewer.

Sherri Branson-Hurt then asked for a ballpark cost. Brad Eales said that it would be at least \$9,000 for the sewer extension and lift station and that does not include the restroom facility.

Brad told the Board that dirt is being dumped at Century Park for a future expanded parking area. Public Works will be putting in the silt fence.

Brad Eales informed the Board that the Parks and Recreation Department will not be doing the outside maintenance, mowing, landscaping, etc. at the new Community Center.

Tray Harkins, Mike Anderson and Brad Eales are working together to advertise and promote Excelsior Springs. They are looking into both sides of a billboard along Highway 35 somewhere by Pleasant Valley. They will be working with the Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Excelsior Partnership, City Officials, Business Leaders, Excelsior Springs School Officials, etc.

Brad Eales feels that Excelsior Springs as a whole does not do a good job of promoting the city, schools, businesses, etc. He is looking for ideas to promote and advertise Excelsior Springs.

Reggie St. John suggests looking at Galena, Illinois, Hannibal and Hamilton, Missouri. He also suggests “creative swiping” of ideas.

The Excelsior Springs Jobs Corp Center recognized the Parks and Recreation Department with a plaque as a “Work Base Learning Site”.

The “Spring Up” games were debuted at the Wine Festival. Nate and Kendra offered bucket pong, ladder golf, Jenga, and corn hole. Westlake Hardware sold the buckets used in bucket pong to the Department at a reduced cost. Carol Baxter donated the giant Jenga, ladder golf and loaned the Department the corn hole game for the Wine Fest.

Nate showed the new Parks and Recreation Department personalized corn hole game.

Sherri Branson-Hurt will bring food to the July 19 Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Lynette Manley will bring food also. Thank you!!

Scott Smith made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Jake Simmons seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0.

The June 21, 2016 Excelsior Springs Parks and Board meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.