

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

JULY 25, 2023

**THIS IS A DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON
AUGUST 22, 2023**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting held July 25, 2023 at the Excelsior Springs Community Center was called to order by President Jake Simmons at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken with seven board members present.

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

Jessica Meyer arrived at 6:06.

MEMBERS 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; Chad Clevenger – Manager - Parks and Open Space; Janet Morehead – Administrative Assistant; Alexis Blankenship – Recreation Coordinator

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mark Bullimore seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 7 – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Scott Buckman, Mark Bullimore; Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

Zac Wilkins made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2023 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting as presented. Kyle Uptegrove seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 7 – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Scott Buckman, Mark Bullimore; Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

Discussion was held on the July 25, 2023 FY 22/23 Financial Report. Questions were asked and answered.

The 2023-2024 Budget Worksheet Draft was discussed.

Jessica Meyer arrived at 6:06.

Zac Wilkins made the motion to accept Nate Williams' 2022-2023 Working Budget through 7-20-2023 as presented. Patrick Halfhill seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Mark Bullimore, Patrick Halfhill, Jessica Meyer, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

STAFF REPORTS

The large turtle donated by Dr. and Mrs. Shemwell has been set at Century Park.

Alexis (Lexi) Blankenship was introduced as the Recreation Coordinator.

Alexis shared that numbers are way down for Fall Youth volleyball and soccer. Plans are to continue to offer three weeks of skills for players and coaches and three weeks of games for the players.

She is researching non-traditional sports for youth and adults - fencing, archery, shooting sports, etc.

Suggestions were made to: start the seasons later, after school starts to engage those students that have not signed up for the activity; attend Open Houses to talk to parents and students; talk to elementary PE teachers. Also being discussed is how to offer scholarships, etc.

Lexi has been reaching out to and working with area coaches, college players, etc to build curriculums for the coaches.

Drake Pollard discussed FEAT. Youth FEAT Camp was full with 15 participants. 1 - 8 ratio with instructors. Probably 500 training sessions for the month. Charlotte Woodward, Staley High School soccer, tweeted about Drake and his training program. She is being recruited by college teams.

Nate Williams suggested the Board check out the new wall mural in the Community Center lobby.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There are no committee reports.

2023-2024 Committees were discussed and formed:

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

Recreation: Mark Bullimore, Patrick Halfhill, Kyle Uptegrove

Parks: Sherri Branson-Hurt, Jessica Meyer, Zac Wilkins

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

OLD BUSINESS

Nate Williams updated the Board on Phase II of the pool. Powell Lake at Century Park is open for fishing. There are still several items that need to be completed including the dome, cleanup, drive access repair, seeding, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

Board picture will be taken after the meeting concludes.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Nate Williams is inviting Board members to attend the November 17, 2023 Kansas City Area Parks and Recreation Director's Banquet and meeting. There should be a speaker and ample opportunities to network. Nate will have more information but let him know if you are interested.

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark Bullimore seconded the motion.

Jake Simmons adjourned the July 25, 2023 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting at 7:09 p.m.