

**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**APRIL 24, 2018**

**THIS IS A DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON MAY 22, 2018**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department Board meeting held April 24, 2018 was called to order by President Reggie St. John at 1802 hours.

Roll call was taken with six board members present. Scott Smith arrived at 1811hours.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President – Reggie St. John; Christy Marker, Secretary; Sherri Branson-Hurt, Treasurer; Patrick Halfhill; Don Ledford; Susan McAuliffe; Scott Smith arrived at 1811 hours

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Lynette Manley, Jake Simmons

**STAFF PRESENT:** Nate Williams, Director; Chad Clevenger, Parks Superintendent; Janet Morehead, Administrative Assistant

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON:** Sharon Powell

**VISITORS:** none

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Don Ledford, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Reggie St. John Nays – 0

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2018 Parks and Recreation Board meeting as presented. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Don Ledford, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Reggie St. John Nays – 0

The Financial Report was discussed. Nate Williams reviewed his Line Item Notes and his working budget.

Scott Smith arrived at 1811 hours.

The Department will be able to use Midwest Public Risk Safety Credits and be reimbursed for 20 playground borders and safety harnesses.

After further questions were asked and answered about the Financial Report, Susan McAuliffe made the motion to accept the Financial Report dated March 31, 2018 and prepared April 9, 2018 as presented. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 7 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Don Ledford, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John  
Nays – 0

## **STAFF REPORTS**

In the Senior Center Staff Report, Nate Williams left the February numbers for comparison to the March numbers. Congregate numbers increased but the salad bar numbers decreased. Denise Bedford, Senior Center Administrator, has to have at least seven preordered salad bar meals to break even and since the quality of food served has improved, not so many want to eat salads.

Meals for the Homebounds were discussed. With the new administration at the MARC office and if the home delivered meals company changes, the meals to the homebounds will have to be delivered by volunteers. MARC will not pay for them to be delivered. Denise Bedford and John McGovern, volunteer coordinator for delivering homebound meals, is working on getting a volunteer base to deliver these meals.

MARC will no longer be paying for the pickup and return home of Senior Center patrons that have no other way of getting to the Senior Center. Discussion is ongoing with the City of Excelsior Springs' Transportation Department.

Nate Williams has reconstructed the Parks and Rec logo. With the current logo it is hard to see the fountain in a one color print. He has ordered new ink pens for giveaways. He is working on ways to get the website out to more people and to get more people out and into the parks. Nate is also working on giveaways for events.

Sherri Branson-Hurt said that Century Park looks fabulous! Great job!

Susan McAuliffe said that she loves the rocks at East Valley Park Gazebo #1.

Reggie St. John commented how impressed he was with how well the maintenance crew worked with each other and the volunteers at the Excelsior Springs clean up this past Saturday.

Chad Clevenger will have four college aged students coming back this summer as part time worker. They have all worked with the Department before. Two will be rangers and the other two will be on the maintenance crew.

Steve Marriott, Director of Administrative Services, has asked for personnel costs for FY 2019. Nate Williams is putting in for an additional full time person or possibly two part timers for the maintenance crew.

Patrick Halfhill asked when the dog park will be started. Plans are to start on it when the two projects underway are finished and mowing has started.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nate Williams would like to have three or four Clean Up Events throughout the year, maybe quarterly, and include the Board and the Foundation members. The cleanup would be for a shorter amount of time and a smaller area i.e. Siloam Mountain after fireworks, walk through a couple of the parks and police the grounds, etc.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Love Where You Live - Earth Day 2018 Cleanup was a major success! Three hours, 70 volunteers, 10 truckloads of trash consisting of 80 trash bags of trash, trash, 10 tires, chairs, bicycle, television, wheelbarrow, box springs, metal drum, etc.

A lot of brush was cleared out from along the Fishing River behind the businesses along Thompson Avenue.

The Piccadilly "Be Our Guest" was April 7. Everyone had a good time! Clearing \$20,000 was the goal for this year. Projections show that this goal should be met!

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Parks and Recreation Department is partnering with BOOST Sports Performance to offer a speed/agility camp on April 27. Cost is \$10 for 45 minutes targeting 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders. If the first session fills up, then Drake Pollard will offer another session right after the first one. Drake Pollard is an ESHS graduate and would like to see the local athletes improve and build on their abilities.

Sherri Branson-Hurt and Sharon Powell each are donating \$50 for 5 youth to attend this BOOST camp. Susan McAuliffe is donating \$10 for one youth to attend.

Nate Williams will talk with Drake Pollard about Boost summer programs for middle school and high school students.

Early registration for the National Recreation and Park Association Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana this fall opens on May 14. Nate Williams would like to get registered early to be able to take advantage of any discounts available and stay at the conference hotel. He will also be attending a preconference workshop. Board consensus was positive.

John Fletcher and Fred Couceyro whom Nate met at NRPA Conference in New Orleans and he suggested they contact MPRA to present an educational session at the 2018 Conference. They presented “Tips from Dinosaurs” at the Missouri Parks and Recreation Association Conference this spring. Nate talked with John the other day. They received very favorable reviews and MPRA wants them to come back to Conference in 2019 and present more sessions.

The Parks and Recreation 2017 Annual Report was discussed. Nate Williams asked the Board for suggestions or additions.

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to approve the Parks and Recreation 2017 Annual Report as presented. Christy Marker seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 7 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Don Ledford, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John Nays – 0

Nate will be presenting the report to the City Council in May or June.

### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

There are three Parks and Rec Board members whose term expires on May 31, 2018. They are Don Ledford, Lynette Manley, and Jake Simmons. Please contact Mayor Brad Eales or Mayor Pro-Tem Sharon Powell if you would like to be reappointed or not. Don Ledford said that he is willing to serve on the Parks and Rec Board again.

Nate Williams presented at the Lewis Elementary Economic Fair for all ESSD fourth graders. He talked with three different groups regarding the parks, how the Department is funded, what goes into developing a park, why mulch is needed, musical instruments along the trails, etc.

Jade Williams is working with Westview Elementary students on 2D and 3D designs for the splash park. Nate has worked on a survey for the students to select features with a budget.

Christy Marker made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion. Motion passed, 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 7 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Don Ledford, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John Nays – 0

The April 24, 2018 Parks and Recreation Board meeting was adjourned at 1914 hours.