

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 26, 2020

THIS IS A DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON JUNE 23, 2020

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting held May 26, 2020 in the Council Chambers at the Hall of Waters was called to order by President Reggie St. John at 1810 hours.

Roll call was taken with six board members present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President – Reggie St. John; Vice-President – Jake Simmons; Treasurer – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Scott Buckman; Susan McAuliffe; Zac Wilkins

MEMBERS ABSENT: Patrick Halfhill, Don Ledford, Christy Marker

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON: Sharon Powell

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

VISITORS: none

Susan McAuliffe 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, Scott Buckman, Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Reggie St. John, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2020 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Reggie St. John, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

The Financial Reports were discussed. Nate Williams informed the Board that purchases were being made for Rainbow Splash Park in the 73-00 line item. Questions were asked and answered.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to accept the Financial Reports and FY 2019-2020

Budget Report dated April 30, 2020 and prepared May 5, 2020 as presented. Zac Wilkins seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Reggie St. John, Zac Wilkins
Nays – 0

STAFF REPORTS

Nate Williams presented Sherri Branson-Hurt a framed certificate thanking her for her nine years of service and dedication to the Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board. Nate has invited Sherri to serve on the Foundation Board.

Thank you Sherri for the homemade pies and Dari B ice cream that you brought to tonight's meeting!!

Reggie St. John thanked Chad Clevenger and his crew for their work and dedication. The parks look great! He asked Chad how his crew was holding up. Chad said that they are keeping busy with mowing and projects. There are a couple of swing sets that he wants to redo and a couple of walk trail places that needs to be worked on, as time and money allows. One Covid 19 closed sign is gone and the caution tape around the playgrounds keeps coming down, but overall the community has been good during this pandemic period. Overall things are good!

Kendra Beaver is working on ESports. KC MESA has Fortnite Regionals on June 5 with the top three players from Excelsior Springs, Gladstone and Raymore. Liberty and Lee's Summit are considering joining KC MESA.

Excelsior Springs will play Lenexa in Mario Cart on June 7.

Kendra is tentatively setting up tennis lessons for July.

Parks and Rec Month in July will be offering events for families. Kendra is working on this.

The plan for Art in the Park will be for Jade Williams to do youtube videos for Art in the Park this summer. Families can then go to the parks and find the natural supplies.

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department is adapting to the restrictions for the safety of its patrons. Excelsior Springs, Liberty, Gladstone and Smithville Parks and Recreation Departments are following the Clay County Health Department's guidelines on opening areas. June 1 – ballfields and shelters with less than fifty people will open.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – none

OLD BUSINESS

Nate Williams gave a Splash Park update. Nate, Chad and Brent Bishop – Public Works – met with Play Scapes and Waterplay planner, engineer, and installer. Plans are to start the splash pad in July.

Nate reported on the savings to the Parks and Recreation Department during the Covid 19 Pandemic. No Youth League Supervisors, no background checks for coaches, no officials, no portable restrooms, no park rangers and the cancellation of the 2020 NPRA Conference amounts to approximately \$35,500 in savings.

Nate Williams has been in conversation with the representatives of the First United Methodist Church regarding the approximately two acre strip of land just north of the Rainbow Splash Park.

Park facility openings will be in accordance with the Clay County Health Department's Covid 19 guidelines and also in alignment with the surrounding Parks and Recreation Departments. Communication is the key during this pandemic.

NEW BUSINESS

Nate Williams reviewed the 2019 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department's Annual Report. He will be presenting it to the City Council at the June 1, 2020 council meeting.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to approve the 2019 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department's Annual Report. Jake Simmons seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Reggie St. John, Zac Wilkins
Nays – 0

The Brand Guidelines for the Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department was explained by Nate Williams. These guidelines lay out how the Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department will be presented.

The Rainbow Splash Park mega soaker's splash zone is too large. It has been changed to a retro water tower and three smaller features. The Rainbow Splash Park logo will be put on the water tower, facing the south.

Plans for the splash park is to test it this fall, as long as construction goes as anticipated, then winterized. There will be a soft opening/party with the Parks and Rec Board, Parks and Rec Foundation, City Officials, Staff and Companies involved in building it.

There will be a Grand Opening in the Spring/Summer. Jake Simmons suggested a drone video of the soft opening.

The Piccadilly has been rescheduled for August 15, 2020. Play Scapes will do a virtual walkthrough before the Piccadilly and have that video available for viewing at the Piccadilly.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Kyle Uptegrove has been appointed to the Parks and Rec Board. He will be sworn in at the June 1, 2020 City Council Meeting.

Nate showed one of the “Social Distancing” signs that will be placed in the parks.

The CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act monies that the City receives should pay for the signs, sanitizing supplies, supplies to work at home with i.e. laptops, docking stations, etc.

Thank you Sherri Branson-Hurt for serving on the Board and for the homemade pies and ice cream tonight!!

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hand votes was taken. Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Susan McAuliffe, Jake Simmons, Reggie St. John, Zac Wilkins
Nays – 0

The May 26, 2020 Parks and Recreation Board meeting was adjourned at 1945 hours.