



Parks & Recreation

City of Hermiston

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

July 14, 2022

Committee Members present: Jeff Kelso, Lydia Raath, Trista Hindman, Erica Juarez

Also present were: Councilors Jackie Myers and Lori Davis; Hailey Gardner, Youth Advisory Committee Liaison; Brandon Artz, Parks and Recreation Director; Kelly Schwirse, Recreation Admin and Nicole Westing

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:33 by Jeff Kelso

INTRODUCTION

Nicole Westing works for Umatilla County and has been recommended for Position #7 on the Parks & Recreation Committee for the remainder of the term. She is joining us in an unofficial capacity. Angel Aguilar has also been recommended for Position #6 and was unable to attend. These open positions as Mike Frink relocating out of the area and Michael Herriman having to step back due a new job and new baby. Approval and appointments for these positions are expected by the City Council at their next meeting on August 25.

MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from April, May and June meetings made by Erica Juarez, seconded by Lydia Raath. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes from the Recreation Projects Fund Meeting – TRT Grant Awards made by Lydia Raath and seconded by Eric Juarez. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments

REPORTS & BUSINESS

Presented by Brandon Artz. See presentation attached.

4th of July Fireworks

- Parks & Rec was informed in April that the company scheduled to perform the annual firework show from the Butte do not have Oregon licensed pyrotechnic and was unable to be of service.
- Tom Ramsey of Hermiston offered to step in at the last minute and do the show. Since Tom also does the firework show in Stanfield on the 4th we opted to move our show to July 3rd.
- Show was a success and attendance in Butte Park was comparable to previous years.
- We are currently working with a representative of Western Display Fireworks who will be out to tour the Butte and design a firework show for 2023.
- \$6,500 was spent in 2022. Budget for 2023 is \$25,000. Firework Fund is funded through the Transient Room Tax.

Hayfield Project

- Development recently renamed to Prairie Meadows.
- \$2.5 million in approved loans for the development of a community park within Prairie Meadows.
- Top three recommendations from the Parks & Rec Committee to include in the Prairie Meadows development:
 1. Building similar in style to the Maxwell Pavilion that could be utilized as a rental facility for events.
 2. BMX course/mountain bike trails
 3. Amphitheater/Gathering place

PARK UPDATES

Presented by Brandon Artz. See presentation attached.

Funland Playground

- Farm City Fencing has completed the installation of the black rail fencing.



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- Rotary Club installed the first shipment of pickets. Pickets were initially installed very close together and as a result obstructed visibility inside and outside of the park. Decision was made to remove every other picket creating high visibility throughout the park.
- A number of pickets removed were with names and will be reinstalled when the next shipment of pickets arrives to complete the project
- Spinner play structure update: parts are on hand, coordinating with the company on getting it replaced.

Tactile Map at Funland Park

- Spearheaded by the Lions Club to introduce a tactile map in Funland park giving children who are visually impaired an opportunity to explore, play and have fun.
- Looking for 1-2 volunteers from the Parks & Rec Committee to be on the Tactile Map Committee.
- An inter-government agreement with Portland Community College to consult on this project. First consultation on Monday, July 18 at 4:00pm via Zoom

Hermiston Family Aquatic Center

- Mid-Season Update: Revenue, admissions, lessons and staffing. (page 9)
- Rate increases for daily admission, splash passes and facility rentals were approved by City Council prior to the season opening.
- Wind storm blew over large pool umbrella prior to opening weekend. Replacement has been ordered however is currently backordered, hoping to have it in by August.
- During the same wind storm the new sun sail poles exposed that the poles moved more than they should. Remanufacturing additional supporting poles and waiting on them to be completed.
- Kickoff weekend canceled due to algae bloom in the multi-use pool
- 2nd Grade Swim lesson program completed in late May. All five elementary school participated in this program

Slash Pad

Presented by Brandon Artz. See attached presentation page #.

- On behalf of Hermiston Parks & Rec, Brandon Artz and Trista Hindman accepted a \$20,000 check from Wild Horse Foundation to go toward the renovations on the splash pad.
- Additional grants for this project have been received from Good Shepherd Health Foundation for \$12,500 and Lamb Weston for \$50,000
- Concrete Specialties has been contracted to resurface the splash pad with non-slip surface and is scheduled to begin shortly after Labor Day. The splash pad was last resurfaced in 2010
- Anderson-Perry has been contracted to engineer a new pump house approx. \$40,000. Bid to include replacement of pipes, manifolds and control panel to automate the start and stop of the water on a timer. Currently Tiki Hut primes the pump and gets it all going so that it becoming auto started throughout the day.
- Plans to remove fencing around the splash pad making Funland park easily accessible. Fence bordering the dog park will remain.
- Shade structures and slide are will also be added features.

Riverfront Park

- Work on the parking lot has been completed and engineers have sign off.
- Hydroseed has been applied to the old parking area.
- Playground structure scheduled to begin in August.
- Motion activated solar lighting will be added to the parking lot. Lights will produce very little light pollution to nearby neighbors. Potential for installation of these same solar lights along oxbow trail.

Bark Park

- Hermiston Chamber of Commerce hosted a Doggie Dash in May. A portion of the proceeds (approx. \$1,300) was donated to Parks & Rec for improvements on the dog park.
- Double gate system added to entry keeping dogs contained prior to entering either the big or small dog areas.
- Marlette has offered to construct this shelter. Full engineer plan and has been completed. Shelter size is 20'x16'



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- Concrete pad will be added for the shelter to sit on.
- Shelter will straddle the fence dividing big and small dog areas to be enjoyed in both areas.
- Working on plumbing to bring in a dog watering station.
- Interested in dedicating a portion of the summer grant money to agility stations at the dog park.

Teen Adventure Skate Park

- Phase I funding of \$550,000 will go into the 7,500 sq. ft. of skate park. Proposed ground breaking in in early 2023
- Presentation made to the Land Local Government Grant Program committee for Phase II funding. Awarding of the grant will be announced in August/September with funds made available as early as October/November. In the event we do don't receive this grant, all efforts to apply for additional grants will made until Phase II funding can be secured.
- A large portion of the Phase II grant would be used for a shade structure at the south end of the park covering a portion of the skate area. Proposed shade structure would be 84' x 40' and approx. \$150,000 Structure would provide much needed shade and increase the usage time during the heat of the summer. In the event that Phase II funding is not available at the time of Phase I construction commences, footings will be included in anticipation of the addition of the shade structure at a later date.
- Daniel Wattenburger re-designed the logo for the skate park, incorporating a skate wheel and ramp while keeping a likeness to the City logo.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presented by Brandon Artz. See presentation attached.

Summer Programing Grant

- \$200,000 Summer Programing Grant was received in early July. All summer programs were discounted 50% with the exception of swimming lessons. Any participants that registered for these programs prior to the grant being received were issued a credit of 50% on their Civic Rec account. Credits on account over \$150 were giving the option of having a check issued instead.
- All Summer Lesson participants will receive a swag bag with Hermiston Family Aquatic Center branded swim accessories and shirts. Swag bags are courtesy of the grant.

Youth Sports Jerseys

- Traditional black/white reversible jerseys that have been used for years with our youth sports program are no longer being manufactured.
- Decision was made to move toward a sport tech shirt with a single print on front incorporating our new sport specific logos for players.
- A large lot of sport tech shirts were purchased to allow us to have stock available on hand for the next few years of programing. Purchase total \$30,000.
- AJ Printing of Hermiston will be providing the printing services.

Events Recap

- Cork & Barrell in June 25yh, approximately 200 people in attendance.
- Spud Fest, July 9th, vendors, entertainment and kids stuff. Attendance was good.

Upcoming Events & Programs

- Kid's Triathlon, Saturday, July 23rd. Registration still open for this event
- Kiwanis Kids Day, Saturday, Sept 17th 10am-2pm
- Melon Fest, Saturday, Aug 20th Bathtub races, get you teams together!
- Faith & Blue Weekend, Saturday, Oct 8th 11am-4:00pm at EOTEC. Highlighting police departments and what they do for the community. Multiple are law enforcement agencies, vehicles, K-9 unit and lots of activities.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

No meeting scheduled for August.