

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM. by Board President Elliott.

1. Roll Call: Present: Park Board members, Pat Elliott, Kathryn Lewandowski, Allicia Woodhouse, Larry Hallett, Mark Chambers, City Council, Parks & Rec Dir. Jodi Mieden.

Absent- Brad Wegner, Gary Manning, County Board

2. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting(s) in lieu of printed copies and approve the same.

Motion by Woodhouse to approve the minutes. Second by Lewandowski

Final Resolution: Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion/updates on Rotary Lights in the Park 2023.

Keith Behling stopped in to represent the Rotary Club. He wanted to thank the Parks Department for all their hard work helping put in posts for the 183 trees put up this year. He gave high praise to Spencer and his department. He reported that SW Tech brought in their students to train alongside the City Utilities Department by using equipment to place lights on all the trees again this year. Simpsons once again donated equipment to make this happen. This work is a benefit to the community as well as the students and teachers. The Board questioned why the cap on the amount of trees and Behling explained that Mick Cosgrove donates the trees each year, at a cost of 5k and up. At some point, you must draw the line to keep balance of logistics for the entire project. Most all the volunteer slots are filled already this year!

4. Discussion and possible approval on the following Sanctioned Recreation Group:

a. Richland Center Church League Sports- Volleyball

Mieden reported that last year the Volleyball league had 11 teams, and this year they are full with 18 teams and needing an extra location to accommodate the schedule. All agreed there has been no issues with this league in the past. Motion by Hallett to approve Church League Sports- Volleyball as a Sanctioned Recreation Group. Second by Woodhouse.

Final Resolution: Motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion and review of CC/SRC/Pool/Recreation Department draft budget for 2024.

Mieden presented the draft budget for 2024 and all agreed to reach out to G.R.A.C.E. for help with shading issues. Elliott is talking with Andrea Heffner at Court & Main about another large umbrella like the existing 2 in the pool to see about a price. He has a base; all we would need would be the post with arms and cloth cover and we could install near the splash pad. Mieden is looking into a PA system for the Aquatic Center to replace the existing unit that has seen its better days. All agreed on the draft.

6. Discussion and possible approval of pool pass holiday discount sale.

Mieden reported that in December of 2022 we had a sale that patrons could get the 2022 pricing December 1-31st, since we were raising prices for 2023. This year with prices remaining the same at the pool, it was decided to have a 10% off sale from December 1-31st on season passes only.

Motion by Woodhouse to approve pool pass holiday sale. Second by Chambers.

Final Resolution: Motion carried unanimously.

7. Approval of payment of monthly bills.

Motion by Hallett to approve payment of the monthly bills. Second by Lewandowski.

Final Resolution: Motion carried unanimously.

8. Staff Reports:

A. Senior Coordinator: Heffer reported a great turnout for the October 12th trip to Diamond Jo Casino. The Senior Center profited \$545 after paying for the bus use. \$50 was deposited for coffee money bringing that total to \$430 so far for the year. Three trips with Urban Scenic Travel are planned for 2024, including a Branson Show Extravaganza, San Antonio, TX, Canada and a Brewer's game. Total trip profit is \$956 for the year.

B. Parks and Recreation Director: Mieden reported on the pool shutdown process and the work that she had done with Elliott to alleviate some of the labor cost with Neuman. We learned that most pool companies seem to be struggling to retain workers and the more we can learn the better. The work done in house saved the City about \$9,000 to shut down. Kraemer H2O & McGuire also came in to shut down the bathhouse without event. Our Trick or Treat Trail turned out to be an amazing event this year, serving over 400 kiddos. Lots of excitement is brewing for next year! We worked with the RAD Golf Club for a fundraising tournament to build new tee boxes. The group will plan with the Parks Department to do the work in the Spring. A new main sign will also be installed for future maps and fliers. The club asked and was allowed to do some extra mowing in the prairie to each side of holes 11 and 12. In the past the weeds have eaten tons of equipment. Lewandowski voiced some concerns about the prairie restoration and interruption of nesting and discussed possibly mowing after the nesting timeframe. She plans to do some research on that and report back. The ice rink location is still a bit fluid, but most likely will be built behind the Meyer shelter as it had been in the past. City Utilities voiced issues with the Stori Field location, due to an older, fragile water system. Mieden reported plans to use up 3 weeks of vacation this year.

9. Park Board President's report. Elliott reported on work done at the pool to assist Mieden in closing the pool and that he is in talks with Andrea Heffner on another funbrella to place at the splash pad.

10. Reports, requests, etc. Hallett mentioned how nice it was to see large amounts of kids at the soccer fields this fall. Numbers are way up compared to years past.

11. Adjournment.

Motion by Hallett to adjourn the meeting. Second by Chambers. Final Resolution:

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Jodi Mieden.