

SEMI-MONTHLY PARK BOARD MEETING

DATE: July 24, 2019

TIME: 4:15 PM

LOCATION: BOARD ROOM

PARK STAFF PRESENT: GARY BOWEN, GARY NOLLEY,
TERIE ANDERSON, MIKE BABBITT

OTHERS PRESENT: ANNE TUNGATE, HANNAH GUNNELL,
JEFF WRIGHT

PARK STAFF PRESENT: KAREN MARTIN – DIRECTOR
TRISHA TACKETT – RECREATION DIRECTOR
JENNIFER LEFFLER – ADMIN ASSISTANT

Mike Babbitt made a motion to accept minutes from the July 10, 2019 meeting. Terie Anderson seconded motion. Motion carried.

Gary Nolley made a motion to accept departmental claims as presented. Mike Babbitt seconded motion. Motion carried.

RECREATION REPORT:

Pool Update—Trisha reports that the pool hours will be changing next week due to the start of the school year. She states that the hours will be posted on social media as well as around the pool facility. Trisha states that those hours will begin July 29th with the pool being open for public evening swim on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00p-8:00p, Sensory Night on Wednesday from 6:00p-8:00p and public daily swims on Saturday and Sunday from 12:00p-6:00p until August 10th. She reports that Doggie Day, which is also the last official day of the pool, will be Sunday, August 11th from 4:00p-6:00p.

Gary N asked about the attendance for Sensory Night. Trisha stated that it has been slow to start but she believes that next year it will catch on. She states that this year was late to start and the first date was rained out. She has received a good amount of positive feedback and really believes that next year attendance will grow with increased awareness.

Mike B asked how many guards would be needed on the weekends if the pool was open once school begins. Trisha stated that she would need 12 guards. Mike B asked if we would consider being open on the weekends through the end of August. Trisha stated that she has tried that in the past and attendance has not justified keeping it open. She reports that once school begins, attendance drops dramatically and with the cost of staffing as well as the cost of maintaining the pool it just doesn't make sense to do that. Trisha states that she wishes that weren't the case, but believes that for many families, back to school activities changes their mindset and to them, summer is over. She also states that extracurricular/sports activities limits the availability of the staff.

Gary B asked what the feedback has been on the new pool toy. Trisha reports that it has been very good. She states that it has re-energized the community and she feels that it was a great decision.

Mike B asked if the splash pad would remain open. Karen stated yes that it would until the weather changes.

Free Pool Days—Trisha reports that due to the excessive heat the weekend of July 19-21, the pool offered free admission. She states that the following attendance numbers were recorded: Friday=approx. 642, Saturday=approx. 677, Sunday=approx. 610. Trisha reports that it went well and that fortunately, the attendance was spread out over the course of the day. She credits the MPFAC staff with doing an excellent job of working together considering the heat as well as the number of attendees. She stated that they all deserve a lot of credit for how well they represent the Parks Dept.

Gary N stated that based on those numbers, we lost approximately \$9,600 in admissions revenue.

Gary N asked about sponsorship for Community Day. Trisha stated that the movie is sponsored but admission is free. Trisha states that we will re-evaluate for next year as she considers moving the community event back to the daytime hours rather than evening.

Summer Camp—Trisha reports that the last day for Summer Camp is this Friday the 26th. She states that camp was 9 weeks long. She reports that there were record numbers this year and there will be a need to re-evaluate some things for next year in anticipation of increased attendance again next season. Trisha gives much credit to her camp counselors for doing such

an excellent job in running the camp program. She states that they are the reason that the program is successful as they are the faces of the camp.

Activity Guide—Trisha reports that she will be working on the Fall/Winter/Spring activity guide in the coming weeks.

Movies in the Park—Trisha reports that this Friday is the next installment of the free movie series. She reports that it will be at Sunrise Park and the movie playing is Skyscraper, sponsored by Worldwide Financial.

Mike B asked about the mosquito concerns along the river at Sunset. Trisha states that they have already talked with Robert Lewis and he is spraying for those.

Music in the Park—Karen reports that Kist performed at Music in the Park this past weekend on July 20th. She stated that there were approximately 325-350 people who attended considering the heat index was 110 degrees. Karen states that the performance was very good.

Gary N asked how much we spend on the bands. Karen stated that it varies but the range is typically between \$1,500-\$3000. She states that we normally get three large sponsors for the series.

Gary N stated that there were several free events going on that same day proving that there can be more than one thing scheduled in town and those things can be supported.

Paintbrush Picassos—Trisha reports that this upcoming canvas painting event is scheduled for August 24th for children 5 years old and up. She states that she will be promoting that on social media.

SPORTS REPORT:

In Chris's absence, Karen reported on the following:

League update—Karen reports that leagues are wrapping up and that registrations for the fall session are taking place now.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dog Park—Karen reports that she believes a solution has been found with the key fob system at the dog park. She states that Roger Hickman has given her a quote of \$11,245 to lay conduit.

[Rob Nolley joins meeting via phone call]

Rob Nolley states that Tubesock will be running the wiring from the soccer concession stand and straight over to the dog park. He states that they plan to intersect with conduit that is there currently that Roger put in. Rob states that the wire there currently is an electrical wire rather than network wire. Rob states that there will need to be 700 ft of that wire and the bulk of the cost will be in that wire. He states that he has the equipment needed to get an internet connection over to the concession stand so that will be easily done. Rob states that he understands a locate has to be done before he can start trenching because of irrigation lines, etc. Rob states that he believes the thing that will take the longest will be getting the utility companies out to do the locations—he believes possibly a week to a week and a half. Rob states that his part can be complete in a day. He states that Hickman’s part will take the longest but is dependent on the locations.

Rob asked Karen for her contact at CDVI (the key fob company). Karen states that she will get that for Rob so that he can discuss the equipment cost.

Rob states that he has a very good solution to make that system work great.

Gary N believes that the locations have already started as he has seen the flags in the ground. He asked if we have the funds to make this happen. Karen states that she will be talking with the finance committee as well as the mayor.

Mike B asked if the \$11,000 is a one-time cost. Karen stated yes, it is a one-time cost. Karen states that we will have a monthly service fee from Comcast.

Gary B asked if the key fob system will be the same as the fitness fobs. Karen stated that if we are able to go with CDVI, it will be the same fob. She states that they are still going to hard-wire it, but they will be going from the soccer concession stand which will reduce the cost. She states that with the hard-wire, the reliability is much greater.

Pickleball Courts—Karen reports that supplies were received today to seal the cracks on the courts at Morrison Park. She states that v cuts are complete and we are dependent on Roland Scudder's time due to his work schedule with the WRRF Department.

Jeff Wright asked if there was an opening date set yet. Karen stated that she is hoping next week.

Clearwick Park—Karen states that installation will begin tomorrow.

Gary N asked how long that will take. Karen stated that no official date but she is hoping within two weeks.

Sewage Infrastructure—Karen states that there was an issue with a water line being hit during the SPA Tournament. She stated it was repaired and that construction is moving along with that project.

Gary N asked if they have to run new line to the existing softball diamonds. Karen stated that they are tapping into the existing lines.

Mike B asked about the timeline for Runnebohm Construction.

Gary B stated once the contract is signed, groundwork would begin within 3 weeks.

Karen states that the trail by the boardwalk will be paved soon in time for the dog park ribbon cutting.

Gary N inquired about the canoe drop. Gary B stated that the concrete is finished. He states that it will take about a week to finish the gravel work.

Karen stated that she will get in touch with Amy Haacker at the Blue River Foundation regarding signage and ribbon cutting for the canoe drop.

Mike B asked how many parking spaces there are at the canoe drop. Karen stated she believed there to be 6-8 spots.

Jeff Wright inquired about the cell tower and the status of that. Karen stated that the city attorney is handling that and she will follow up with her to see where things stand.

NEW BUSINESS:

2020 Park Increases—Karen states that she doesn't have anything at this time but asks for board input. Karen states that she will be meeting with Trisha and Chris to discuss potential changes. She states that she may consider increases in the park shelters.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Eagle Scout Project—Karen states that she met with a scout who is interested in an Eagle Scout project. She states that she gave him a list of ideas. She states that he has an interest in music so she suggested a potential project of creating an area for a small stage, which he would design and create, then potentially help organize musicians to perform there in 2020.

Karen states that the project will need to be presented to the board for approval.

Gary N stated that he has an idea the he will share with Karen.

Arts in the Park—Karen states that attendance was low due to the excessive heat but that the activities were very good. She states that there was acrylic painting, kite making, harmonica lessons and many more fun activities.

Shelby Shifters—Karen reports that this year's event went well despite the very warm temperatures.

Other—Jeff Wright inquired about the fishing pier at BRMP and expressed concern about the low rail. Karen states that it is ADA compliant per the DNR.

Mike B states that we might consider signage for liability purposes.

Adjournment at 5:05pm
