

***Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission* Minutes**

May 13, 2021

The Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission convened on May 13, 2021 at Seven Mile Lake County Park in the City of Fulda. The following voting members were present: Leroy Reese (Chair), Molly Malone, Justin Hoffmann, Tom Kappes, Jon Hoyme, Rae Storm, David Thiner and Les Speckmier. Others present: Jean Christoffels, ex-officio member, and Russ Leebens.

Call Meeting to Order:

Chair Reese called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Election of Officers:

Leroy Reese was nominated as Chair.

MSP: Thiner, Speckmier to have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Leroy Reese as Chair.

Rae Storm was nominated as Secretary.

MSP: Speckmier, Hoffmann to have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Rae Storm as Secretary.

Les Speckmier was nominated as Vice Chair.

MSP: Hoffmann, Thiner to have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Less Speckmier as Vice Chair.

Open Forum:

Russ Leebens was present to talk with the Commission regarding the trees on their shared property line near the entrance to Seven Mile Lake Park. The Commission discussed options for replacement whether that is a fence, row of hedges, combination of both, or replacement trees. Justin thought the trees could be removed this year and new ones planted next year; he will need to plan for the trees in the 2022 budget. Justin will meet with Russ to determine plans for the new trees, keeping in mind that there may be underground wires in that area.

Agenda:

Molly requested to add "ADA Friendly Park Equipment" under New Business and Leroy asked to add "Beach on Lake Sarah" to Old Business.

MSP: Hoffmann, Kappes to approve the agenda with the two additions.

Secretary's Report:

MSP: Thiner, Hoffmann to approve the minutes of the October 29, 2020 and November 12, 2020 meetings as written.

Old Business:

a. Lime Lake/Lake Sarah Dam Update

- Justin distributed Cost Proposals and Preliminary Plans for the two dam projects.
- Task 1 of the projects is just about complete with the final step to search for funding; Lessard Sams is the main focus for funding with others being considered.
- An onsite meeting was held with the Petersen's to review the Lake Sarah Dam proposal.
- Discussed the bridge over the Lime Lake Dam – at an estimated cost of \$500k for just the bridge, could consider removing it.

b. CIP Plan

- Reviewed the CIP Plan and identified items that needed to be amended, removed, or added.
- Trees towards fishing pier on Marsh's Landing are getting bad – need to remove/replace – a lot of dry rot and dead branches.
- Camper Surveys indicated a desire for half-court basketball courts at Seven Mile Lake and Swenson Parks.
- Justin and Jean will look at options for additional sites at Swenson County Park as a possible project for 2022.

c. Beach on Lake Sarah

- Justin is working on the permit for the beach and hopes to have the project completed by the end of May or early June.

New Business:

a. 7 Mile Park Projects for 2021

- Bathroom updates will be new entrance doors, and doors to the showers and toilets.
- Need to do some tiling behind the first campsites; will possibly bid out this summer and do work after Labor Day.

b. Campground Fire Rings & Grills

- Lakes 4H Club helped with cleanup at the Swenson County Park. They also have money they would like to donate to the Park for improvements. Suggestion was made to remove old charcoal grills and install grills with grates; cooking grates run about \$200-400 each.
- It was suggested to add Cooking Grates as a Short-Term Project for: Sundquist Park at West Lake Sarah, Seven Mile Lake Park, and Swenson Park.

c. ADA Compliant Playground Equipment

Molly commented that the Murray County Foundation is looking to add ADA Compliant Playground Equipment at Gullard Park in Slayton. She would like to see it added at the County Parks – the equipment would be compliant for not just physical disabilities, but also sensory, and would be for kids up to the age of 12. It was decided to look at the information and discuss at the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be July 15, 2021, at 5:30 p.m; location TBD.

MSP: Kappes, Speckmier to adjourn at 6:58 p.m.

Attest: 
Secretary –Murray County Parks & Recreation
Advisory Commission


President – Murray County Parks & Recreation
Advisory Commission