

Park Board Minutes

Scheduled Meeting

June 28, 2021

The Parks and Recreation Board met on Monday June 28, 2021 at the Recreation Center at 5:00 p.m.

Attendees: Michelle Hastings- Chair, George Johnson, Tony Cornish, Steve Taylor, Sandy Still, Mary Grace Phillips, Ricky Overcast

Other Attendees: Mike Alsup- Director of Parks & Rec., Trevor Freitas, Frances Simpson

Agenda Item # 1 Roll Call

Agenda Item # 2 Consideration of Additional items to Agenda

Agenda Item # 3 Consideration of Minutes: May 3, 2021

- Tony Cornish motion for approval
- George Johnson second the motion

Agenda Item # 4 Director's Report

- Mike reviewed the Park and Recreation Director report for April and May, and reported the following items from the reports
 - Business in the outside of the Parks is doing well
 - Recreation Center business is picking up since reopening the entire facility.
 - The outdoor pool business is picking up as well
 - The new BCBS playground is due to be installed in the middle of August. Park staff will start taking down the old Celebration Station and leveling the ground around July 5th. Michelle requested to know the capacity of the new playground, and suggested putting something in the local newspaper to update the public on the status of the new playground.
 - Programming- Mike stated we have had some good events this year in programming to include mother/son picnic which brought in over twenty

mothers and sons to have a picnic and play kickball. Daddy/Daughter was a sold-out event, Fishing on the river didn't have a good turn out as years before, but will return to the Fire and Codes Academy next year. The July 4th event will be held on July 3rd this year, there will be music, fireworks, crafts, food trucks, and a few games.

- Aquatics - The outdoor pool will be closed on Wednesday due to not having enough lifeguards to cover that day. He reported there was an injury in the pool due to the water being over filled. Sandy requested a TN Flag being hung above the score board with the US flag. She would like someone to give her the measurements of the current flag that is there.
- Athletics- The adult basketball went well. The batting cages are now open and staffed. Bedford Baseball are still playing at this time. Tennis tournament was hosted by Shelbyville Central High school. Volleyball games are still being played on Tuesday nights.
- Senior Programming- Senior Olympics went well. Cindy will be having Senior Adult lunch on July 3rd for any senior interested in attending.
- Parks- Park staff have been mowing, doing equipment repair. Parks is currently down two staff members, but we are currently screening applicants to hire. They are only getting one inmate at the current time. George Johnson made mention that there are kids climbing over the bathrooms at the big pavilion and hanging out up there. Mike stated the bridge flowers that were vandalized will be put back up soon.

Agenda Item # 5 Old Business

- A. Dog Park Grant:** Trevor reported we were not selected for the dog park grant, but we will continue to push forward with the dog park project. He received a quote for the fencing for the dog park in the amount of 15,000. Trevor stated there are no other TN grants for dog parks, only national grants would be available now.

- B. Smoking in the Parks:** Mike reviewed information from the State that will go in to affect July 1, 2021, that states the facility can decide whether they want people to smoke. He also reviewed the attached Tullahoma city ordinance for comparison of what joining Cities are doing. Mike suggested putting up signage for people to stay back from the entrances while they are smoking. Mary Grace Phillips requested the smoking material be removed from the front entrance of the Recreation Center.

- C. Budget Update:** Mike stated the general funds was good this year. Mike reviewed the capital budget sheets, and stated everything was approved that was requested. Parks budget items were tennis court lights, lighting for two small baseball fields, replacement of two F-250 trucks, two 72" deck mowers, 6x4 utility vehicle, and purchase of compact

utility tractor with backhoe. Recreation Center budget items were locker room upgrades/shower partitions, new locker etc..., Exercise room improvements to include removal of drywall to open up the room, flooring for track, 2nd floor, exercise room and fitness room, replacement of meeting room partitions, indoor pool HVAC system supply motor, which will include a crane rental and replacement of the Blazer with Ford Explorer 4x2. Mike stated Park budget is 561,000, Recreation budget is 909,000, and Athletics budget is 91,000. Mary Grace Phillips expressed concerns about the noise level on the second floor with the removal of drywall walls and she stated there needs to be a walk way for people waiting to enter into rooms. Mike suggested putting some type of markers on the floor guiding people were to walk. Mary Grace Phillips stated Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday there would be a traffic issue with if you have to walk through the weight room area. Sandy, Mary Grace and George Johnson requested some drawings of the renovation for the next Park Board meeting. Mike also stated the council approved the salary study to help with staffing.

- D. Playground Update:** Parks scheduled to start demolition of the old playground July 5th. The new playground will be installed in mid- August.
- E. Parks & Rec. Covid-19 Response:** Mike stated the state is no longer giving guidelines for the covid response. CDC still recommends washing hands, social distancing etc.... Mike stated the Recreation center is completely open with no restriction with on number of people, but recommends to follow CDC guidelines.

Agenda Item # 6 New Business

- A. Bicycle Route Map:** Mike stated the TDOT has designated a bike route from Chattanooga- Chapel Hill- Nashville which will run through Shelbyville back roads. The state is requesting a letter of support from our community. The board asked which roads this would include? Mike state he believed it would be Hwy 82-41A. The board had some concerns about the roads not having shoulders to ride on and was wondering if the City would have any liability by given our support to this project. Mike stated he didn't feel the City would have any liability for these riders. Sandy Still motioned to approve the support letter pending no liability would be on the City. Mary Grace Phillips second the motion. Unanimous vote from the Park Board members.
- B. TDOT Transportation Alternate Program:** Mike referred to this as the TAP grant and stated this would bring more funding for trails, greenways. He stated they would be sharing railroad through town going towards Tyson, but rails would not be abandoned. Mike stated the Cities has old plans for this, but they are in need of updating. The grant

is an 80/20 grant, which means the City would be responsible for 20 percent of the cost. Mike will update the Board more at a later date.

Agenda Item # 7 Additional Items to Agenda

- Ricky Overcast suggested adding uniform officers to run off the bad people in the parks. He feels the current night staff is not adequate for security. Ricky suggests hiring a uniform officer at least two-three nights a week and they should arrest as needed. He feels we need to set an example to keep the bad people out of the parks. Mary Grace Phillips suggested parking an old cop car in the parking lot to suggest a police officer on duty. Mike stated he would speak to the Police Chief regarding an armed officer.
- Sandy Still suggested painting or stenciling something above the Commemorative Tree plaque in the front lobby. She stated "Tree of Memories" might be nice to put above it.

Agenda Item # 8 Adjournment

- Adjournment motioned by: Tony Cornish and second by George Johnson

Minutes By: Frances Simpson