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PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
City Hall Training Room

Members Present: Patricia LaRue (chair), Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Matt Janquart
Melissa Pedrini

Members Absent: Alyssa Mueller (Council Rep)

Staff Present: Cindi Danke-Recreation Manager; Brenda Rundle-Recreation Assistant; Scot Simpson-City Administrator; Mike Stifter-Public Works Director; and Kendra Ellner-Planner

Others Present: Sean Downing and Ben Fochs

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC Gaulke/Pedrini to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2022 Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

Sean Downing thanked Park Board for their time over his years on the Park Board and encouraged Park Board to support building an ice-skating rink.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. City Administrator Scot Simpson discussed the City's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding of \$1.6 million (we have already received about half), and City Council needs to decide the best use of the money. It can be used for any local government services with very few exceptions. There was a City Council workshop to discuss how to use the money. Council leaned towards using it towards existing CIP priorities and they were also given recommendations from City staff. Some projects discussed were the Powell Avenue bridge reconstruction (the City portion), Wasson Lane reconstruction (the City portion), playgrounds, police cars, and weather siren replacement. At the April 12th Council meeting, a final project list was recommended by City Administrator Scot Simpson based on previous workshops, but an amendment was made requesting that \$100,000 of it be used towards an outdoor ice rink which passed by council 4-3. The mayor later vetoed requesting that the focus remain on existing CIP projects and wait for the results of the outdoor recreation plan to determine the merits of an ice rink. The estimate for a very basic ice rink is \$50,000-\$60,000. The 2018 Master plan of Glen Park had a sports court that can be flooded in the winter for about \$200,000 and a basic warming house would be about \$500,000. Park Board members shared their thoughts about having an ice rink, likely at Glen Park because of the last park plan, but it was not high enough on the priority list to get completed in the first or second

phase of Glen Park plan. Though an ice rink is on the Park Board wish list there are higher priority items they would like to see developed in the parks. After much discussion, it was unanimously decided that they are in favor of putting in an outdoor ice rink if the funds are available. To override the mayor's veto at the April 26th Council meeting, it would take a vote of at least 5 out of 7 City Council members.

2. Planner Kendra Ellner shared an update about the Outdoor Recreation Plan. An existing park facility inventory has been completed and a list was shared with Park Board members to review. There will be pop-up events in April and the next steering committee meeting will likely be in May.

3. Mike Stifter says orders have been placed for some playground equipment at four playgrounds: Brandon's, Spring Creek, Knollwood, and part of Glen Park (with some donated funds). Staff also recommends replacement playground equipment at Westdale and Collins with ARPA funds. The Wells Park neighborhood recently received a survey about their neighborhood park and what amenities they desire.

4. The Glover Schoolhouse at DeSanctis Park is being updated and prepared to make it rentable. It should be ready to use in summer. Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will have some ideas for historic photos to hang in the schoolhouse. There are plans to have a historic potbelly stove and desk in the corner.

5. Cindi Danke passed out the list of Hoffman Park camping rules for review. The campground opened Friday April 15th, and it will be full this weekend due to the Chamber's Bluegrass Festival.

6. Patricia LaRue would like each park board member to visit some parks a few times this spring and early summer and speak with park-goers. This will be discussed again next month.

7. Cindi Danke and Scot Simpson told Park Board about a recent community project funding grant for five projects in Rep. Ron Kind's district, and there was a very short deadline to apply, so City staff applied for grant monies to be used on swimming pool as it was already on a project list but did not have the monies to complete it previously. We will likely hear a decision later this summer.

ACTION ITEMS

None

CALENDAR

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be May 18, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

MSC Dobbertin/Janquart to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle
Customer Service Representative