



LEAWOOD PARK BOARD MEETING Meeting Minutes – May 18, 2007

5:30 p.m. – Maple Room

Board members in attendance were Amy Vlastic, Bob Wright, Mark Mergen and Karen Reimer. Staff members in attendance were Chris Claxton, Kim Curran, Dan Mahanke, Brock Shafer, Jeff Peterson, Brian Anderson, Lindsay Youle and Jackie Buser.

Mark Mergen called the meeting to order at 5:55 p.m. Karen Reimer made a motion to approve the April 10, 2007 meeting minutes and Amy Vlastic seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

I. Staff Reports

Kim reported that pool passes began selling on May 1, 2007. Lifeguard training is scheduled for this weekend. The swimming pool will open in two and a half weeks, on Saturday, May 26th.

Brian reported that the flood and rain issues are not as bad as we would expect. There is 30 foot of trail damage that has occurred south of 119th. The hill in that area is unstable. The Parks department has worked with Public Works in patching and repairing this. They are continuing to look into future repairs. The basketball courts had mud on them after the rains and flooding. Greenway workers are finding odd debris and items, such as; a furnace, hot water heater, etc. The bridges have debris under them as well. The new workers have been doing a good job cleaning up.

The Pedestrian Bridge will be set tomorrow behind City Hall. The trail there will connect to Park Place and eventually to a connection on the east side of Row. The stream will be realigned with the creek bank.

He also reported that at the “Prairie Lessons” site there has been a meeting of the committee members. They will sod once construction is complete.

There is a new custodian that has started at Ironwoods. His name is Ray and he is responsible for cleaning the facilities inside the park. This is expected to save the city over \$20,000 annually.

Lindsay reported on the activities for Mom & Son Sports Night. The sign ups were slow in the beginning but came on strong in the end. The food that was cooked was hamburgers and hot dogs. They played games and had a great time.

She also gave the report on National Trails Day, which is scheduled for Saturday, June 2, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. They are teaming up with Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation,

who will be starting their walk at 99th & Holmes. They will meet at Walts Mill, walk and then provide transportation back.

She reported that the July 4th celebration will not have any low fireworks this year. They will be advertising the event at AMC Theatres on their large screens. We will also be participating in a new Chamber Leawood Map all parks and facilities will be listed.

Jackie reported that she has been catching up since returning from her honeymoon. She has been working on advertising for the Community Center. She has listed our facilities ad in the KC Weddings magazine and has completed a Community Center brochure.

The camps are doing well. Balloon Tree is almost full. She has also begun seasonal training.

Dan reported that the soccer season has one or two weeks left. The season only lost two Saturdays, with this Saturday possibly being the last of the season. T-Ball deadline was last week. He is checking out the coaches bags next week, which, include (4) helmets, (2) bats, (8) balls. It is the coach's responsibility to return the bags at the end of the season. Practice will begin May 21, 2007.

Brock reported that the Junior Tennis League had (1) division last year. This year there will be three divisions in the girls as well as the boys. We will have (1) division in the girls league full and possibly all (3) divisions in the boys. Summer classes start this week. We will be offering new classes for Pilates and Fencing. Tween camp is still accepting enrollments.

Jeff reported he was using a Passport to Adventure @ Zona Rosa. They will stamp the passports when guests visit. Nature center programs are fishing, and Scouts. The cabins are rented Friday's and Saturday's through June. Camp Inferno will be tomorrow. There will be a Water Garden Plant exchange as well. The KC Water Garden Tour will stop here on July 14th and July 15th. The new Nature Center brochure is ready. His department is still working on camps, including the climbing camps.

April's report was given by Chris Claxton. She reported that April has several activities presently occurring. The dedication of the sculpture at Oxford School House will be occurring on Saturday 5/19/07 @ 10:00 a.m. The Board will receive invitations. The Foundation raised 85K for this project. There is a brochure for the Oxford School now.

II. Mayoral Appointments-Park Board

Chris reported that additional appointments were approved by the Counsel. Rod Crawford will replace Sam Turner and Councilman Mike Gill will replace Councilman Scott Gullledge on the advisory board.

III. Interact Meeting for Gezer and Ironwoods Parks/ Planning Commission Meeting-May 22nd, 6;00 p.m.

Dennis Reynolds will be present for the above listed meeting. There will be no formal presentation but staff and architects will be available for questions. Jeff Joseph and Mark Klein of the planning department will also attend and record citizen comments.

Chris shared that she had met with Dennis Reynolds on Gezer. The construction there will begin in the fall. The city expects a visit from the Gezer Delegation next May. \$1.1 million is the budget for the project

Chris also met with Brett at Continental on the lake at Ironwoods. They have started working on the scope of their work. The preliminary work will begin in June. The best time for this type of construction is when the ground is frozen, so we will likely start in late fall and finish in the spring of 2008. The bath house will be located between the cabins. Bob Wright mentioned concerns in regard to lighting for safety reasons. Chris assured him that the front would be lit to provide a safe entrance at night.

IV. Park Impact Fee Recommendation update

Chris wrote the memo referencing the refund issue. The city attorney was concerned with taking it out entirely. There was discussion of extending it for 7 years with the fund to be reduced to zero every 5 years. The recommendation was to improve existing facilities, but, not to include maintenance. Chris believes the ordinance allows paying the general fund back with special parks funds after the fact but will leave that interpretation up to the legal staff.

V. Update on Golf Course Construction

Chris reported that there was water on the golf course last weekend but no damage to the work that was in progress. Had we not raised some of the greens, some of the work would have been lost. The contractor has done a very good job thus far. The greens completion deadline is June 15, 2007. They are also working on the clubhouse with budgeted items such as the ceiling and carpet replacement.

The grand re-opening is set near Memorial Day, 2008. This could possibly be one of the 60th anniversary events soon to be planned.

VI. Misc.

Chris reported that 2008 will be the 60th anniversary of the City of Leawood.

She mentioned that the Fall Program Guide information from staff will be due by June 14, 2007.

Chris shared that there will be a Design School in the Kansas City area.

She then handed out a NRPA priority list for review.

Chris also reported that the feasibility study on the community center will be moving forward soon.

The new parking lot at I-Lan is almost complete. There will be sod where the concrete was previously located. The \$13K change order will be paid for by the concrete organization.

It was reported that the ball field at 119th & Tomahawk Creek Parkway will remain open while building the new field. The creek widening will be done once the ball field is complete. The runoff from the One Nineteen development is prompting the proposed project.

Amy Vlasic made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Karen Reimer seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Claxton, Director
Parks and Recreation Department