

ADVISORY BOARD Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2010 5:30 p.m. – Leawood City Hall – Maple Room

Board members in attendance were Karen Ward-Reimer (chair), Jacquie McKinney, Amy Vlasic, Doug Stevens, Bob Wright and Rod Crawford. Council liaisons Lou Rasmussen and Julie Cain also attended.

Staff members attending were Chris Claxton, Kim Curran, Brian Anderson, and Tonia Morgan.

Jacquie McKinney called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

The October 12, 2010 minutes were approved unanimously.

I. Old Business

A. Discuss 11/01 Council Action on Trail Study

<u>Chris</u> reported that after some discussion at the November Council meeting it was approved and the project will start soon.

<u>Council Liaison Cain</u> reported that at the Council meeting Councilmember Rasmussen voted "No" for the study for reasons as stated. All other Council members voted "Yes". In her opinion, it is hard to make a determination until the trail study is complete.

Council Liaison Cain added that the Mayor likes that portion of the trail.

Chris added that the Mayor did state that completing the study doesn't guarantee anything will be done.

Council Liaison Rasmussen asked Chris to clarify that the amount changed from \$19K to \$22K.

<u>Chris</u> reported that this is correct; the price did change as it was a mathematical error in the contract on their behalf.

B. Update on "Splash" Public Art Project

<u>Chris</u> reported that they continue to work on the lighting issue. They received new information from the artist's assistant. It is still a large sum at \$78,000.

<u>Chris</u> added that April, Brian and her met with Brett of Continental to discuss the borings as well as the survey they completed. There is a significant rock shelf particularly in the front. Currently there is quite a bit of silt in there. She asked Brett to propose a cost for removing all of the silt and sludge. Also, to look at the footing to see what, if anything, can be done on top of the shelf.

Council Liaison Rasmussen asked if we are staying within the budget for this art piece.

Chris reported that it isn't over budget. The piece was originally \$400,000 but was negotiated to \$200,000. When lighting was introduced, it became a reality that it wasn't included in the original amount. At that point, they requested an additional \$100,000 pushing the total at that point to \$300,000. She told the APPI chair that she could not support this.

<u>Council Liaison Rasmussen</u> reported that he is nervous about the foundation as well as getting electricity to the area. Where will the power supply come from? Running the cable through water will produce significant risks.

<u>Chris</u> reported that it depends on what lights the sculpture. The options are lighting it within the sculpture, from the shore, or at the sculpture with the box on the shore. She is uncertain how or which option can be done. They are trying to avoid going into the water.

<u>Council Liaison Rasmussen</u> reported that his biggest concern is if the wrong cable is picked, he would like to have a maintenance contract on it.

<u>Chris</u> reported that it will be very important to have tighter agreements. A different contractor will be in charge of the lighting. She would suggest a maintenance bond to go a long with it. Even if we don't go in the water, anything can happen. This is a flood area. We need to be very specific with this sculpture. If the artist makes specific design elements as a part of their proposal, it needs to be included in their contract.

Jacquie asked Lou if he saw the same sculptures in Texas and if so, were they in water.

Councilman Liaison Rasmussen reported that he did see the sculpture in Texas. It is on land.

Doug Stevens reported that he has also seen them. There is a series of three-four.

<u>Chris</u> reported that she is uncertain of a completion date for the agreement. If we wait until next year, this is fine. She would rather error on the side of caution. This is the most expensive amount we've ever spent.

Chris advised the Committee that a contract won't be completed in the near future.

Council Liaison Rasmussen asked if the contract will go before the Council again.

<u>Chris</u> reported that it would. The information will need to be given in regards to the lighting. Therefore there won't be any questions about what the Council is approving.

C. Discuss Proposed 2011 Fee Increase as it Relates to Cost Recovery

<u>Kim</u> passed around a report requested by Lou at the October meeting. Kim gave an overview of the report.

<u>Kim</u> reported that biggest is Aquatics. The pool passes will be a guess of ultimately how this averages out with individual pool passes. We were able increase revenues across all funds 1.6%.

Chris added that there is a work session proposed for April 18. It is great to discuss fee recovery however; the 2012 budget will be complete by then. This is such a big topic. As a Park Board, it would be nice to discuss this in the next month or two if there aren't additional extremely pressing issues. There are a lot of variables we are trying to get on top of and things that we are trying to statistically make sense of.

<u>Chris</u> reported that there needs to be a connection to our fee policy that we shared and never adopted and a proposed cost recovery amount.

<u>Kim</u> reported that if this is done, it will give us a better idea of where we are. It would make it easier.

<u>Chris</u> said as an example, the fleet expenses should be under Public Works instead of being charged back.

<u>Council Liaison Rasmussen</u> asked where the rental fees for Gezer Park will be accounted for. Will the shelter fees increase?

<u>Kim</u> reported that ultimately this number falls under programming but it isn't listed on this report. Shelter fees increased last year and are not proposed to increase in 2011.

Council Liaison Rasmussen reported that in reference to sports field rentals, did raising the price from \$7.50 to \$10.00 pay for chemicals.

<u>Dan</u> reported that all of the numbers are based on baseball. We don't rent out soccer fields other than Ironwoods Park.

Kim reported that there is a rental available, but it is fairly steep.

<u>Chris</u> reported we are looking at enhancing our program by the potential partnership with Puma Futball Club. We would keep our same program but this will be a hybrid. We aren't suggesting changing our mission; this has been important to us. There have been thousands of children who participated in the recreational soccer program over the past twenty-five years.

Rod Crawford asked how our soccer fees compare to other recreation programs in the area. Are we at parity with them; we are not wildly more or wildly less. Do we look at other programs in relation to their cost?

<u>Dan</u> reported that we are less, but not wildly less. We aren't offering them turf, lights and scoreboards. There are teams who may pay more in premier but a lot of them are using the fields at the new complex on 135th Street.

<u>Chris</u> reported that it is important when you discuss comparing with other agencies to look at what they are giving and what we are giving.

<u>Rod</u> asked if we will risk people leaving Leawood Soccer to play for Blue Valley for example if we raise the price because they can play on the fields with the turf and lights etc.

<u>Dan</u> reported that he takes all of this into consideration. He researches several clubs other than Blue Valley annually.

Chris added that it is not only about what we offer it is also how we market what we offer. There are parents that really don't want a three year old playing premier soccer.

II. New Business

B. Presentation of Proposed Expansion of Soccer Program: Partnership with Puma Futball Club

Dan introduced Jack Jewsbury, Rob Million, and Vladimir Roganovic of Puma Futball Club.

<u>Chris</u> asked all Committee members to introduce themselves. Each gave their name, and how long they have served on the Committee.

<u>Dan</u> reported that he was contacted by Puma who expressed an interest to partner with us regarding Premier soccer.

The members of the Puma Futball Club introduced themselves and expressed their interest for partnering with Leawood soccer club.

Rob Million introduced himself. He met Dan while coaching a t-ball team for his son through Leawood. When looking for a club to partner with, he was drawn to Leawood because of the quality of the recreation program and its image and the brand of the City of Leawood. It will match perfectly with who they are and who they aspire to be.

<u>Rob Million</u> has played his entire life. He began when he was four and still plays as an adult. His interest is a love for the game and being with his three children who also play

Other than being the Director of Puma FC, he owns two other businesses. His primary focus is Puma FC and the growth of the club. He had children playing soccer for other clubs and he saw the process and the stress they endured. It encouraged him to create something better. A friendlier atmosphere that works with families and allow the children to give their input and to be a part of something fun.

Children want to compete, but they also want to be with their friends. In a lot of premier programs they are based on skill level. It is all based on talent. When done this way, in many instances it separates friends.

Puma is out kids playing with their friends and mainly the kids they attend with. This is an incredible atmosphere. The parents are friends; the kids are friends which make for a better training environment. The kids are training while having fun. The program is very impressive and can stand against any premier program.

Rod Million reported that their goal isn't to take anyone from the recreation program. They understand that their program isn't for everyone. They would like to partner with Leawood to provide an option for those interested and offer training and an outlet for those who desire to do so.

Rob Million added that the experience of Jack and Vladimir are a great asset to Puma. They work exceptionally well with the children and have a great passion for the sport.

<u>Jack Jewsbury</u> introduced himself. He is from Springfield, Mo. He attended St. Louis University where he played soccer. He graduated in 3.5 years to be eligible for the professional soccer draft. He was drafted by the Kansas City Wizards in 2003. This is his eighth season with the team.

He has coached numerous teams around the community. He tries to educate and push his passion for the sports onto kids. It is rewarding to see kids progress on the field, but more importantly as people. He is excited to work with Puma Futball. This is his first time working with them, but it has been a great first season.

<u>Vladimir Roganovic</u> introduced himself. He is originally from Serbia. He came to the United States on a four year soccer scholarship. He became team Captain his Sophomore Year. He was also an All-American for four years. He played professionally in Europe. He has been the Assistant Coach at Columbia College while completing his M.B.A. program. This is his seventh year coaching youth soccer in the United States. He has huge passion for the game of soccer and

coaching kids. Soccer helped him achieve his undergraduate and graduate degree. He would like to teach kids that through the game of soccer they are able to achieve their goals and receive scholarships to attend college.

[Rob, Jack and Vladimir gave an overview of their presentation.]

<u>Vladimir</u> added that they try a different approach with a positive philosophy. It works well. They are often approached by other teams how to sign up and play with them. They practice twice a week with an optional free Friday practice for those who want to attend to work on additional skills.

Rob Million reported that it will be a huge benefit to allow their club to partner with Leawood. They have the same beliefs and philosophies as Leawood in the type of program they want to provide. Rob added that if we partnered in the near future, it will be a strengthening to the current recreation program. They would like to work with coaches and educated them. A player can play recreation soccer and also continue playing in their league. This will give players alternative training.

An extra benefit is having a current wizard player be able to run a training program for the kids. It may not mean much to the parents but the kids absolutely love it when Jack Jewsbury facilitates a training session. He provides autographs for the kids.

Council Liaison Cain asked if the parents coach the teams or Puma Staff.

<u>Rob Million</u> reported that the parents coach at the recreational level. Players receive professional coaching once they move to the Premier level.

<u>Dan</u> reported that Leawood will still have the recreational soccer league but if a player or team wants to move over they will be under Leawood, but they will move to a Leawood Puma team.

Amy Vlasic asked if the recreational teams and the Puma teams will work together.

<u>Karen</u> asked if it is has to be one or the other. Are players allowed to play recreation and premier soccer?

<u>Dan</u> reported currently if a player has played all along in the Leawood program and they have an interest to try out for a premier team to see how good they are and if it will work out, they are allowed to do so, and continue to play on the recreation team to be with their friends. Outside premier players are not allowed to join a recreational Leawood team.

<u>Dan</u> added that he and the Puma organization haven't discussed this yet. They will do so soon to see how this will work if a partnership is developed.

<u>Council Liaison Rasmussen</u> asked about field utilization in terms of our recreation program. Is there room on our fields for a partnership with an outside organization?

<u>Dan</u> reported that our fields are not totally utilized all the time. There is room for a partnership.

Rob Million reported that they would practice at Leawood but the weekend Premier games will not be played on Leawood fields. They are played through Heartland Soccer Complex.

<u>Karen</u> asked has anyone discussed this with Brian for his feedback in regards to what it will do to the fields.

<u>Dan</u> reported that it won't change a lot. The only issue he foresees is as the program grows and our numbers increase drastically and every field is used nonstop and never rested. Currently the fields are rested periodically so it isn't a concern. If we partner, we may have to minimize this if the program grows. There are two fields off of 119th Street and Tomahawk Creek Parkway that can be used. When we had many teams before we utilized field 22 at Tomahawk Park.

Rod Crawford asked if Ironwoods Park is used for soccer practice.

<u>Dan</u> reported that we don't use Ironwoods for any Leawood practices. It is rented for football practice from outside teams.

Kim added that there aren't any goals at Ironhorse Park.

Council Liaison Rasmussen asked if partnered with Puma, who will do the team assignments.

<u>Chris</u> reported that currently Dan does all team rosters for Leawood. Her understanding is Puma will do the same process to try to place players on teams with their friends and attending the same school. If partnered with Puma, it will offer a bridge for the kids from recreation soccer into a premier league but the environment will be different than what the kids are used to or what they expect it to be.

<u>Chris</u> added that as an answer to Council Liaison Rasmussen's question, the kids will come into the Puma program depending on age, if they want to pursue premier, they will bridge over into this program through us with Puma as the partner as opposed to what happens now.

Council Liaison Rasmussen asked if there would be a separate fee for each player.

<u>Chris</u> reported that there will be a separate fee. It is two different programs. Depending on when they start to play, there is a progression in age and if a child has a desire by the time they reach the age for premier they will have the opportunity to do so through (Dan) as their contact person to partner with Puma.

<u>Dan</u> reported that the Friday practices will be an added benefit for recreational players who are considering premier. They have the opportunity to attend as a recreational player to see if it is something they enjoy and work with the professional coaches and receive feedback from them. If a player chooses to play premier they can do so, the next season. Players will sign up through Leawood as a premier player.

<u>Rob Million</u> reported that Leawood's program begins at the age of four. The Puma league begins at age nine. There are many years for a child to play recreation soccer before deciding, or having the ability to play for Puma.

Karen asked who Puma teams play and how competitive are they.

<u>Rob Million</u> answered that they play the other clubs in town. There is ability to combine the two. The teams may struggle the first year but with the training and environment they offer, the ability is there. The focus is on the player and their development. They are competitive but winning is not the goal. The goal is to develop who they are as a player.

Karen asked how self esteem is built in a player if they are losing against other premier teams.

<u>Vladimir</u> reported that premier soccer offers different levels. In order to build self esteem they will be kept in a lower appropriate division.

<u>Rob Million</u> reported that this may be true short term but with the proper training hopefully once the program is promoted. Hopefully long term they be better trained and gain more confidence playing on the field.

Rod Crawford asked Rob to clarify the try-out process. Their presentation states that they don't have try-outs. How is it handled if a child wants to play premier but they aren't premier quality?

Rob Million reported a child will attend a low pressure work out. It isn't a tryout. The main thing to accomplish is relaxing of the player and no stress. They will progress over multiple work outs.

<u>Rob</u> added that they are confident with the skills his staff, the program and trainers that the potential will come. They will help them develop.

Rod Crawford asked if a player and their parent think they are but the Puma staff thinks they are not very good.

Rob Million reported that they will be placed on an appropriate team. It may be a lower team to give them time to develop as a player.

<u>Chris</u> reported that if users are demanding something we don't offer they will seek it out elsewhere. We need to follow what the market demands. The difference is from our prospective is it will be nice to partner with someone who has our same philosophy. However, we don't want to lose the integrity of our program that we spent the last twenty-five years developing.

Dan added that he's been in charge of Leawood soccer for sixteen years.

Karen asked if Puma plays outside soccer tournaments. Do they travel?

Rob Million reported that the Overland Park soccer complex is a great benefit. There are tournaments at that facility every weekend. The younger kids don't need to travel because the complex is local. On the other hand, there are teams who prefer to travel. This is a team decision. The club will not mandate this. Some teams play overseas and other parts of the world. Puma would love to be able to offer this to their players and it would be an amazing opportunity for them but it is not mandatory.

<u>Rob Million</u> reported that another benefit will be to keep the kids under Leawood and increase money for the Leawood soccer program. Leawood hasn't presented them with a dollar amount of the charges for the Puma players but Leawood will get paid for every player through Puma FC.

Chris reported that the increased revenue is a bi-product of the opportunity. It is not the driver.

Brian asked the number of teams they are averaging per season.

<u>Dan</u> reported that there will be ten to twelve new teams added to what we currently have if we partner with Puma in the spring will not affect us greatly. We will still rest fields as necessary.

Amy Vlasic asked if this will hurt the Leawood soccer program.

Dan reported that it will not hurt the current program at all.

Rod Crawford and Karen Reimer reported that in their opinion it will help our program.

<u>Dan</u> reported that his own personal feelings of soccer is for kids to learn the game, have fun and not feel that they will be cut from a team if they aren't good enough. Puma has the same philosophy.

<u>Brian</u> reported that the fields are maintained like a high level lawn, not a sports field. They leave the grass tall and fertilize it four times per year. His biggest concern is he will not have the time to devote to constant aerations and frequent constant overseeing of fields.

<u>Dan</u> reported that our fields are as nice as any fields there. They are better than Arrowhead Stadium, Brian's staff should be commended.

Rob Million reported that the fields don't have to be perfect. It is good to have a mix of playing surfaces to play on. Kids get spoiled when they play on one type of field all the time.

Council Liaison Rasmussen asked the proportion of Leawood kids involved in the current soccer program.

Chris reported that it is 26-27%.

Council Liaison Rasmussen also asked how we will justify Leawood participation if the transition plan works. Will it decrease?

<u>Dan</u> reported that it will increase. A lot of Leawood residents play in Blue Valley strictly because we do not offer premier.

<u>Council Liaison Rasmussen</u> reported that half of his constituents are paying taxes to Blue Valley Recreation as well. What is the driving force to partner with Puma FC?

Amy reported that it will be nice to keep the Leawood recreation kids in Leawood and offer them their own premier league.

<u>Karen</u> reported that it would be nice to offer families with kids with two different levels to be able to keep it under one umbrella.

<u>Dan</u> reported that you basically lose a child for everything if they leave our soccer program to go play somewhere. People typically do everything where they play. If they play one sport with a particular recreation program, they will play all sports there.

<u>Council Liaison Rasmussen</u> reported that he is only one of eight Council members, but he feels very strongly that the whole purpose of the parks and recreation is to present a facility that permits our people to practice sports, entertainment etc.

<u>Chris</u> reported that there are also other activities where it is the opposite. Some of it's a subsidy. This is why non residents are charged more, as we should.

<u>Vladimir</u> reported that by adding additional teams to the current Leawood soccer program, it will also impact different programs other than soccer and also businesses in Leawood.

Rob Million reported that they do charge fees to operate their program. There are player dues, coaching fees, uniform charge and a premier fee. There are also league fees and Kansas Youth Soccer Association fees. This is how the professional coaches are paid.

Rod Crawford asked if their fees are comparable or at parity it with other premier teams.

Rob Million reported that their Puma fees are less than those he's researched.

Chris asked if their fees are inclusive. Are parent's told the cost up front.

<u>Rob Million</u> reported that each parent receives a cost sheet at the beginning. A major difference between Puma FC and other premier teams, they offer fundraising opportunities to offset cost.

Rob Million reported that there are revenue opportunities for Leawood if the partnership comes to fruition.

<u>Council Liaison Rasmussen</u> asked the expected timeframe for the City of Leawood to make a decision. This will need approval from the Council and a contract drawn.

<u>Chris</u> asked if Puma is incorporated. A contract will be needed with Puma. She agrees with Lou, it will need approval if we decide to move forward.

<u>Rob Million</u> reported that they are not-for profit corporation. His hope is to move forward with this quickly. There are clubs currently sending e-mails for spring sign up. If Puma isn't on board with Leawood for the spring, it will push back everything back tremendously.

Dan reported that he would like to begin the partnership with the spring soccer season.

Council Liaison Rasmussen asked if a form contract has been drawn.

Rob Million reported that they do not. The terms have not been determined at this point.

<u>Chris</u> reported that a standard contract would be used. Or Patty Bennett can create one. We will have an agenda item that would authorize us to enter into an agreement. We will do a lot of discussion up front. The details will be spelled out in the agreement. Chris added that Dan made a true point. It won't be beneficial if not done in the spring because we would lose almost a year getting into the process.

Council Liaison Cain asked if Puma is only having this conversation with Leawood.

Rob Million replied that they've been approached by others but they are only focused on Leawood.

Rod Crawford asked Rob how a partnership with Leawood will benefit Puma FC besides really nice practice fields.

<u>Rob Million</u> reported that it is a benefit anytime a partnership for a soccer club to a recreational program is huge for the life blood of that club but a lot of it is tied to the fields.

<u>Chris</u> reported that she would like to propose that the Park Board takes time to digest this and make a recommendation at the December 14, Park Board meeting. At that time, it can be brought to the December 20, Council meeting. It will be extremely important to have a quorum at the December Park Board meeting, as we discuss this further.

Rod Crawford reported that in fairness to Puma FC and us, this will allow things to progress quickly.

Chris added that the worst case scenario will be the first part of January, which is still doable.

<u>Dan</u> reported that we may lose this opportunity for a year if this isn't done by the first of the year and/or we don't have a quorum at the December meeting. Puma has existing teams that need to sign up. If this isn't finalized, parents will have to register their child through Blue Valley soccer club if they want their child to play premier.

The Park Board Committee members thanked Puma for their presentation.

<u>Chris</u> reported that she will meet with Parks & Recreation staff to come up with a budget and a number before the December Park Board meeting.

<u>Karen</u> asked Dan to also create a pros and cons sheet of the benefits for us and the benefits for Puma all in one sheet for Park Board review. In her opinion it is a huge benefit for Puma. It will be great to have this in Leawood, close with great fields. She asked Dan to e-mail this to the Park Board prior to the December meeting.

Karen would like this to be mutually beneficial for both parties involved.

B. Staff Reports

<u>Dan</u> reported that the weather has been excellent for the fall soccer season. All nine weeks went as scheduled without any rainouts. He has been busy working on end of year reports.

<u>Dan</u> added that in addition to the current soccer program he is pleased to introduce the Puma Soccer League who will make a presentation tonight regarding potentially partnering with their organization for premier soccer. This will be an addition to our current program.

Bob Wright asked when the little kid's youth soccer portion of the soccer league began.

<u>Dan</u> answered that the program began four years ago. He gradually grandfathered in the four/five year olds, kindergarteners and first and second graders.

<u>Dan</u> reported that he is receiving calls regarding three year olds playing. He is sure he will receive calls regarding two year olds playing soon.

<u>Bob</u> added that it appears those soccer fields are always booked. Has there been a tremendous amount of participation, and has it met our expectation.

Dan added that it has met the expectation in his opinion. It will continue to grow as word spreads.

<u>Bob</u> reported that he receives positive feedback from the parents regarding the program. They like the smaller teams and using the smaller fields. It works great until second or third grade. Participation dwindles quickly once kids reach the fifth thru seventh grade and move to premier.

Bob asked if our philosophy should be changed to address this or let it happen naturally.

<u>Dan</u> reported that this is exactly the reason for tonight. Puma Premier League will make a presentation regarding this issue. A lot of what's going on with our program has gradually occurred over the several years. A lot of coaches convince parents that if they don't play premier they aren't playing anything else. Unfortunately there are a lot of premier coaches who have an A, B, C, and D squad.

<u>Bob</u> agreed. A lot of kids who play premier should continue playing in a recreation league instead of playing in the lowest squad and being clobbered. Will options be researched in this regard?

<u>Dan</u> reported that he has been looking into this for years. Many years ago, if you played premier soccer, you deserved to do so. Now, there are so many premier leagues with different level teams. Players are judged and allowed to play based on skill level. Children don't receive fair playing time.

<u>Dan</u> added that if we decide to go with the soccer program presented tonight, it should be a great solution to our problem.

<u>Bob</u> reported that it isn't healthy for all kids to play premier. Recreation leagues are fun and even. Premier will allow any player to join a team as long as the parent is willing to pay the fee.

Amy reported you can get a coach and start your own team if you don't make a premier league.

<u>Kim</u> reported that First Tee ended in October. She's received a lot of feedback from parents. Instead of one class per six week one hour per week, they would rather combine it into one week five days in the summer. She will meet with them in the off-season.

<u>Kim</u> reported that the Challenge Course and Cabins are closed for the winter. Alpine Towers inspects the course yearly for safety and integrity. This will be done soon.

<u>Kim</u> also reported that the Caribbean course tarps were damaged in a wind storm earlier this year. The tarps are in the process of being replaced. The wood preserve application will be completed this week also. A lot of maintenance work is being done at the course in preparation to shut it down for the winter months.

<u>Kim</u> reported that the Lodge had a busy October. We are in the process of replacing equipment as it ages. A portable bar and some of the AV equipment is scheduled for replacement soon.

<u>Kim</u> added that the Holiday Lighting event is November 22. The Leawood Singers, Church of the Resurrection Youth choir and Mission Trail Elementary will perform. It begins at 6p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Breakfast with Santa is Dec 4. It is filling quickly. Currently there are eighty-five in the first session and one hundred-nine in the second. In conjunction with this event, the Nature Center will have an open house along with Oxford School traditions. This will be a busy day. Holiday Camp will be held the week of Dec 22.

<u>Kim</u> also reported that her staff has been busy planning for next year. They have reviewing the next program guide that will be sent in December.

<u>Chris</u> reported that unfortunately April is unable to attend the meeting due to being ill. She will report on her behalf in her absence.

The Arts Council is near completion for the year in regards to art shows. They are moving with the Jesse Small piece that will be located in I-Lan park. Council has approved the piece and its location.

They have selected "Bye Bye Birdie" for the stage company next year.

Chris reported that the final meeting with Continental and Greg Hasselwander from Kevin Cowan Architects is scheduled for Friday. They will discuss the elevations and make sure there aren't any changes before the bid document is released to construct the restrooms. This is moving forward.

<u>Chris</u> added the final touch ups are being done to the Winter/Spring program guide to get it out on time.

<u>Chris</u> also reported that she and Kim recently attended the NRPA Conference in Minneapolis. A lot of very appropriate topics were presented. Many agencies are looking to reposition themselves and struggling with funding issues.

<u>Chris</u> added that Lees Summit won the NRPA Gold Medal Award for their population class against three other agencies. Congratulations!

C. Misc.

<u>Chris</u> reported that she was contacted by Mel Lavery [Hallbrook Properties] last week. He apologized. He is trying to bring five people together. This has been extremely difficult due to their travel schedules. They will all be together the week of Thanksgiving. He should have a determination at that time.

Council Liaison Rasmussen asked if there are at least two acres in the potential area.

<u>Brian</u> reported that he measured approximately three acres of clear field space. He has gotten some numbers together for construction, fencing, etc.

D. Next Meeting Date/Agenda

The next meeting date is scheduled for Tuesday, December 14, at 5:30p.m. at City Hall.

<u>Amy Vlasic</u> made a motion to adjourn the meeting and <u>Rod Crawford</u> seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Claxton, Director Parks and Recreation Department