

ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2012 -5:30 p.m.
Leawood City Park - Lions Shelter

Board members in attendance: Karen Ward Reimer (chair), Lorrie Hamilton, Amy Vlastic, Bob Wright and Doug Stevens.

Board members absent: None

Council Liaisons attending: Lou Rasmussen

Council Liaisons absent: Julie Cain

Staff members attending: Chris Claxton, Kim Curran, Brian Anderson, Brock Shafer, Shelly Pollock, April Bishop, Cody Kennedy and Jeff Peterson

Staff members absent: Dan Mahanke and Tonia Morgan.

Guest attending: Kerry Phillips, Chris White; residents of Steeplechase and Chris Schultz.

Chair Ward Reimer called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Lorrie Hamilton made a motion to approve the April 10, 2012 minutes. Amy Vlastic seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Chair Ward Reimer welcomed the guests attending and asked guests and staff to introduce themselves.

I. Old Business

A. Discuss Location for “My Mind” Art Piece

April stated that the Arts Council has selected a site in Ironwoods Park on the east side of the footbridge and on the north side of the trail.

April stated that the piece will be placed when weather permits.

Amy mentioned that she thinks it is a good place to put the piece.

Lorrie asked if the piece will be lit.

April stated that there are not any plans to light the piece but if the Arts Council does decide to light the piece, solar lights may be used.

Lorrie made a motion to accept the Arts Council’s suggested location for “My Mind”.

Amy seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously.

B. Discuss any “new” input for Ironwoods Park Development

Karen stated that the assignment for the Park Board was to discuss the new land with their neighbors and bring any new or different ideas to the May meeting.

Karen stated she did talk to her neighbors and no new ideas were presented

Chris stated that the Planning Commission had a meeting regarding the future use of the land at Ironwoods Park and they have similar ideas as the Governing Body and the Park Board. One addition from the Planning Commission is a Mountain Bike Trail.

Bob stated he was out of town for the Governing Body Work Session as well as the Park Board Meeting but did have a list of ideas he would be submitting.

C. Discuss Park Land Acquisition

Lou stated that the Park Board has approved the concept of a dog park.

Lou stated that the City wanted to acquire the piece of land due east of City Park, which Hallbrook owns.

Lou stated the question that remains is where the 11 acres is in regard to the creek is and also mentioned the use of the ground is limited (Re: land donation north of I-435 and west of State Line Road).

Lou stated the only way to acquire the land was for Hallbrook to donate it to the city.

Lou stated that the Governing Body unanimously agreed to accept a donation of 13.22 acres of land from Hallbrook on the north side of I-435.

II. New Business

A. Discuss Mayoral appointees to Park Board

Chris reported that the appointments for Park Board will be announced at the May 21, 2012 Governing Body Meeting.

Chris reported that two Park Board members will be appointed.

Chris asked council liaison Rasmussen if the Council Liaison appointments would be on that date as well.

Lou stated that they would.

B. Staff Reports

Brian gave an update on the flood damage from Sunday’s storm

- Soccer Field 22 has a damaged goal
- The majority of the new infield material on the baseball field at Tomahawk Park was removed and deposited in right field
- A large amount of debris was deposited on the trail, fields, footbridges, etc.
- Silt deposited on Lee Boulevard and in the parking lots at City Park, Tomahawk Park and in the parking lots along Tomahawk Creek Parkway.
- Asphalt damage along the section of trail that is currently under contract to be replaced

- Storm pipe was dislodged long the trail near 123rd & Mission Road. No damage to new trail pieces.
- The liner along the west end of the wadi in Gezer Park received water underneath it, which caused it to rise?
- Mulch washed out from under the playground structures at many of the parks
- The creek in the new park land was approximately 40 yards out of its bank along the north side

Brian mentioned that Bike to Work week is next week.

Brian is preparing for the Spoke 'n Art event on June 2. He rode the course earlier in the day and stated he is going to make some modifications to the route

Shelly mentioned preparations are underway to open the pool on May 26

- The small whale, whale slide and sprayground are all being repainted
- The black stripes on the bottom of the pool are being repainted
- A portable lift has been ordered to maintain compliance with ADA guidelines
- A new chemical controller is currently being installed

Shelly reported that the swim team is full and dive team enrollment has increased from 2011.

Shelly reported that many new adult water fitness classes are being offered including; Water Aerobics, Boot Camp, Aqua Zumba, Deep Water Aerobics and an Arthritis Class.

Shelly reported that Movie Night will be held on Friday behind City Hall. The movie will be "The Wizard of Oz".

Shelly reported that she has been working on preparations for the Doggie Dunk on September 4. Sheridan's Ice Cream will be in attendance handing out "doggie ice cream."

Shelly reported pool staff will be in training May 18-25.

April reported that there will be an art show at the Leawood Fine Art Gallery on Friday, May 11 hosted by the Arts Council.

April reported that she has been hosting a large number of Oxford Schoolhouse events.

April reported on the Spoke 'n Art event coming up Saturday, June 2. She said participants will be riding their bicycles to various art pieces throughout the city and learning about each piece. A grilled lunch will be served to participants at the end of the ride.

Kim reported The First Tee classes for spring have started and are completely full.

Kim reported The First Tee Player level is completely full with a wait list.

Kim reported that she has been putting summer staff on payroll

Kim reported that the WebTrac site has been redesigned and is a lot more user friendly.

Kim reported that Tee ball & Coach Pitch Baseball has approximately 550 participants and will have around 40 teams.

Jeff reported that the Prairie Oak Nature Center participated in PBS Kids Day on Saturday, April 28. The event was listed on the PBS website and PSA's on the TV. A nature scavenger hunt was available to the guests who participated in the event.

Jeff reported that the Nature Center will be hosting National Trails Day on June 2. Participants can stop by the Nature Center to pick up a trail map and scavenger hunt map from 10:00am-5:00pm.

Jeff reported that the Nature Center has been busy with walk-in traffic and many cabin reservations.

Jeff reported that the Challenge Course has been busy with programs this spring.

Jeff reported that Nature Adventure and Challenge Adventure camps will be starting in June.

Cody reported he has been working on the July 4 event and applied for the fire permit for fireworks.

Cody reported he is preparing for 4 summer camps: Super Sports, Art in the Park, Outdoor and Balloon Tree. Super Sports, Art in the Park and Outdoor Camp are for ages 8-11 and Balloon Tree is for ages 5-7 years and is designed for children who are attending camp for the first time.

Cody reported that he has been busy accepting reservations for the Lodge and Community Center. He stated the summer and fall rental seasons will be very busy.

Brock reported that the tennis courts have been painted to accommodate the 10 & under age group in JTL. The Junior Tennis League is not associated with the USTA but is adopting their guidelines for youth tennis, which includes a smaller court and lower compression tennis balls.

Brock reported he is preparing for Camp KC which is a camp designed for children ages 10-13 years.

Chris reported the Taste of Leawood will be on Saturday, June 9 at Leawood City Hall

Chris reported the cost recovery for Parks and Recreation work session has been moved from June 4 to June 18.

Chris reported the next Large Item Recirculation Day will be on June 9 and will include the area from Somerset to 95th Street, from border to border east to west.

Chris reported the golf course is doing well and has been busy. Some flooding occurred recently, but has decreased in volume since the creek bank stabilization project was completed during the 2006 renovations.

Chris reported a letter was sent to Troon with the intent to extend the contract. We are currently completing the 3rd year of a 3 year agreement.

III. Misc.

Lorrie asked about the status of closed section of the trail and inquired if the tree limbs have been left on the trail to dissuade traffic.

Chris responded that no traffic should be on the closed section and that "no trespassing" signs will be posted this week. She also reported that the Police Department has been instructed to patrol the area. It is a construction zone and there will be heavy equipment moving throughout the area. It is dangerous for people to go around the barricaded areas.

Lorrie mentioned that the orange snow fence was not across the trail when she was near the area on Sunday. She asked if that due to the contractors needing access to the area.

Brian responded that the fence should be in place at all times.

Chris mentioned that she watched a trail user remove the fence from across the trail. She spoke with the individual and told them not to remove it.

Chris also mentioned that a bicyclist had entered the closed area and crashed. The Fire Department was called to get him out of the area.

Brian reported that a detour was contemplated, but sidewalk access from the west back to the trail at the north lot is not available. The cost of constructing a sidewalk would be approximately \$25,000.

Bob asked if a sound barrier between the soccer fields and I-435 could be created by planting evergreen trees.

Brian responded that a few evergreens were planted years ago but they are susceptible to diseases and in many locations would be encroaching on the soccer fields.

Chris asked if it would be possible to plant trees in the areas where encroachment would not occur.

Brian responded that it would be possible.

IV. Next Scheduled Meeting Date – June 12, 2012

Bob Wright made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lorrie Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Claxton, Director
Parks and Recreation Department