I. Old Business

A. Update on Inclusive Playground Project

Chris stated the majority of the equipment is here. The 2-5 age playground still needs the slides installed and the boulder has been put in place on the 5-12 piece. The better weather should help installing the pour in place and the concrete sooner, if it prevails. Still need higher temperatures at night to complete. She and Alice Hawk are going to meet tomorrow with Deborah Weibrecht from Variety KC. They along with Brian will look at the different signs and their placement locations. Victoria Schmitt Babb with Play4All went to St. Charles and took pictures of the donation tree, which she shared via email. The donation tree leaves will represent the $1000-$5,000 donors. She discussed this with a Leawood Chamber who has this type of business. A decision still needs to be made for recognizing the Wylie Trust and others. We recently received a check for $62,000 from Variety KC.

Brian reported the composite structure for 5-12 age group is coming together. There were three posts that came from the factory that were sent back to have the holes redrilled. This did cause a slowdown in the area. The expression swing for the 2-5 structure is in. It is the swing where the toddler is on one side facing the parent on the other side. The frame is up for the disk swing, tot swings, and Zero G chair swings. The last piece needs to be built moving out of the space from west to east. This is the track zip ride.

Chris suggested when the board leaves tonight to look at the pictures of example equipment located in glass case outside the main conference room. The Mayor had said that Nativity School is very excited about the playground. Not sure if the percent of 35 is accurate but a fair portion of their student population has some sort of special needs; whether social, physical, or emotional

Amy questioned if it might be the parish and not the school.
Chair Ward-Reimer asked if the progress of the inclusive playground had been updated on the website.

Chris reported she had been on site today and took some pictures. The Mayor asked if she would like to give a staff report at the March 20 Council Meeting regarding the presentation by GameTime and PlayCore at the KRPA Conference. She will post information on website after this. She will have a better idea of a potential opening timeframe at this point.

Brian added the temperatures are still too cold to pour surfacing. We need a lot of excavation to put in the track slide, and they are building retaining walls going out to the east.

Chris stated that time will be needed to landscape and put in benches after the installation is complete.

Brian reported that when digging and preparing for the track slide we will need to take in consideration the sprinkler system location. Two thirds of the park’s irrigation system for the soccer fields goes through the area. The wiring will have over 75 pairs of wires needing splicing.

Lorrie added that they probably weren’t thinking about playground expansion with the sprinkler system placement.

Steve asked about the status of fund raising verses the expenses.

Chris stated that there was a lesser expense of disposing of the spoils than expected.

Chris thanked Julie, the Mayor and others, outside of the Foundation, for their participation in helping raise funds.

Chris reported a brief update on the golf course clubhouse expansion; it is on schedule and the first golf event has booked in May. Troy had his first bridal tour. He running ads in the Wire and Knot.

Amy asked what the seating capacity is in the event space at Ironhorse.

Chris answered the space will accommodate 170-225. Smaller than the Lodge with a different dynamic. The kitchen space is limited as compared to the Lodge. The deck boasts a great space overlooking the fairway on # 9 and #2 and #3 tee box. She is working with Troon to select finishes. Drywall should start in about three weeks.

B. 2017-2019 Projects (CIP)

Chris reported meeting with finance today. Nothing has changed in what is being passed out but the formatting of the document. At one time, she had thought about requesting to move the pool bathhouse up but it is nearly March and doesn’t seem realistic, with the other projects online, that we could take the design on in 2017 and construct in 2018. She ask Brian to report on what is going on regarding the Tomahawk Trail project.

Brian stated that the work would be best completed when it is hot and there is less trail usage and risk of flooding. Preliminary work has been turned in to Public Works for their review. The plan is to bid the work the end of March, select the contractor and complete by August.

Lorrie commented the detour is not out of the way for trail users.
Brian added the creek is getting close to the trail so staff worked with the engineer to some clearing and rerouted a section in this area. We will also replace the entire trail from the playground to just east of the Roe bridge.

Lorrie asked is this the same path as last year.

Brian stated some culverts have issues along with trail potholes and concrete pipes so these will be addressed at the same time.

Chris reminded the board about a citizen who spoke about brush removal at a previous meeting; now we are clearing more bush honey suckle from another area in Tomahawk Park just behind the playground.

Brian reported a homeowner wanted to redo their fence and had been throwing their grass clippings over it onto our property. They wanted us to clear out the area. Brian said he let them know that this will open up privacy into their back yard. He will try to plant native plants around the space.

Chris commented that when staff met with Finance on the CIP, we noted that there is no mention of replacement of playgrounds. The playground at Tomahawk Park is about 20 years old and it is very difficult to get replacement parts. Brian is writing a proposal for Chris that will propose replacement for all the playgrounds owned by the City. She will discuss with Scott Lambers, City Administrator. Playgrounds have different looks now. They are not 2-12 altogether but separated into 2-5 and 5-12 spaces. Net roping is big now too. People like the park and use the shelter there. It was the only one that had the bucket swings for a long time.

Chris mentioned that the SAB HOA event is at the Lodge next Tuesday from 5:00-8:00 pm.

Brian reported replacement materials for the amphitheater stage is on the next Council meeting agenda. Chris, April, and Scott Fanning have decided on a solid PVC composite. It doesn’t have any wood and the color is more of an earth tone. The decking should be done in March. They will also pour concrete pads on the side of the stage. The band will be located there along with the storage container.

Council Liaison Cain asked if the skirting is being replaced.

Chris added the new product doesn’t sweat or contrast.

Brian commented the material is a narrow profile like that seen on porches or decks. The pieces interlock with less cupping. It should be better than the GEO decking, and more like a hardwood floor.

Council Liaison Cain asked if the color is harmonious with the restrooms.

Brian added the advantage of the color helps the surface to not get too hot.

Lorrie asked about the tunnel who is responsible for the draining issue.

Brian answered public works thought they could grind down the concrete and cut out a piece but have decided this will not work. Public works will take care of the tunnel when the project comes up.
Julie asked about the Villas at Ironwoods. Have they been approved?

Chris answered that the development is under construction but she has alerted the developer, Mr. Simpson that adding a trail is not in our current masterplan. We will not be moving forward with any connection from the development at this time.

Steve added he agrees.

Chris stated that we have $5 million plus of unfunded projects, not including any type of community center, still questionable.

Council Liaison Cain stated that Leabrooke suggested putting in a mowed entrance from their development so they could access the park. The grass type now contains many sharp blades that is hard to walk through.

Chris commented we usually brush hog the area a couple times of year but we can certainly look at doing something to the turf with minimal labor. We have discussed a trail from the park along the south side of Leabrooke out to Kenneth Road when the park goes under a revised master plan, encompassing the entire 115 acres.

Council Liaison Cain commented how nice the new signs look at Ironwoods.

Chris responded that Scott Gamarl, Outdoor Education Supervisor, designed them and Bryan’s crew installed them.

Brian stated more Boy Scout projects would be on the horizon.

Chris reported that The Leawood Foundation voted to provide signs at I-Lan Park for an amount not to exceed $5,000. They will be similar yet different from those at Gezer Park. A delegation from I-Lan is coming in May and the signs will take six weeks to complete and ship.

Council Liaison Cain said that is has been 12 years since a delegation from Taiwan has visited.

Chris stated Brian, Scott Fanning and her visited Sturgis Stone to pick out a large stone to put the names donor plaque on Leawoof Dog Park. The plaque will be bronze.

Amy suggested having a social at the dog park maybe ask Gary Lezak to bring his dog Sunny out to the event.

Chris reported a change has occurred regarding the Community Gardens at 96th and Lee Boulevard. They will continue in 2017 due to the construction delay of Fire Station 1. They will only be allowed one plot this season.

Chair Ward-Reimer asked when the program guides would go out in the mail.

Chris stated that they are going out this week.

Brian reported that a Hallbrook resident on the other side of the creek has encroached 8 to 12ft on to City property with the beginnings of constructing a retaining wall. Dustin marked the property boundaries. This has been reported to Travis in the codes department and he has issued a stop work order. This has become an ever-increasing problem; we pay for the land survey most of the time. Should we be looking into property markers in these areas along our trails/creeks, we are being reactive whenever someone encroaches or takes down
trees or other plant life. It would be nice to get support of the park board on how to move forward with this.

Steve asked isn’t there a law if you maintain property over a certain period of time it becomes a legal matter of ownership.

Amy asked if all the land is surveyed at this time.

Brian said that this is not always true and even if it is, they may not be marked.

Council Liaison Cain said that she would prefer reaching out to residents in some way vs. installing property markers at the property lines. She asked if we use the Johnson County information to determine the property lines.

Brian stated that we do, but they are not always 100% accurate. He gave the example of the Villas of Ironwoods development. AIMS was way off.

Steve asked, taking Hallbrook as an example, how many properties affront our land.

Chris responded the city owns some of the property on the other side of the creek and the property owners may not realize that.

Steve questioned should someone in the legal department of the City be asked if we are at risk of losing this land if others are maintaining it.

Brian said to consider the issue we has year ago at Gezer Park. There was encroachment with swing sets, irrigation, and gardens, and the City ended up selling some of them a strip of the property. Some of the homeowners had gates installed.

Council Liaison Cain asked if the City paid for the fence.

Brian stated that the developer installed the fence but when a section of it moved, due to sale of the property, we assumed responsibility for the fence.

Council Liaison Cain mentioned that the fence had been leaning for some time recently.

Brian reported that his staff repaired it.

II. New Business

A. Staff Reports

Kim reported the following:

- Daddy Daughter dessert only format was well received by those who attended. Tony worked with the North and Red Door restaurants who offered a special for the dads and daughters before the dance. A big thank you to Lorrie for helping out again this year. A dad actually won the dance contest
- New Program Guide went out this week. Check out some of the new programs we are offering. Program registration for Leawood residents begins tomorrow for walk in or Web trac
- Soccer enrollment is up to 1500 kids so far.
• Tony and Brock are in the process of hiring summer staff
• Staff is working on the 2018 Budget

Chris reported the following:
• The Arti Gras is this Friday at the Lodge. We have a new band and a new food item. April is at the Lodge setting up the show.
• “Broadway with Love” was a success as reservations increased, as the show grew closer.
• SAB HOA meeting at the Lodge on Tuesday, February 21., Hereford House will do the catering

The next meeting will be held March 14 at 5:30 p.m. in the Maple Room of the Community Center.

Lorrie Hamilton made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Steve McGurren seconded the motion the motion was approved unanimously.
The meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Claxton, Director
Parks and Recreation Department