



ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes – November 13th, 2018 - 5:30 p.m.
Leawood City Hall- Maple Room

Board members in attendance: Chair Karen Ward-Reimer, Kim Galbraith, Steve McGurren, Gary Swanson, Amy Vlastic, and Bob Wright

Board members absent: Lorrie Hamilton

Council liaisons present: Julie Cain and Chuck Sipple

Staff members present: Brian Anderson, April Bishop, Chris Claxton, Kim Curran, and Camille Sumrall

Chair Karen Ward- Reimer called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Chair Karen Ward- Reimer made a motion to approve the October 9th, 2018 meeting minutes.

Kim moved the motion and seconded the motion. Steve seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

I. Old Business

A. Pickle ball

Chris informed the group that she has not yet spoken with her pickle ball constituency contacts: Arthur Berger and Pam Morris. She has researched nets that are more substantial for the pickle ball players after the last Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting discussion on pickle ball. She has found sturdier nets for approximately \$250 a net; however, storage may be an issue, as the nets are about 22 feet wide. She reminded the group that another issue with the nets would be how to let the public use them without them getting stolen or damaged.

Steve asked if there is a City employee at City Park during pickle ball season.

Chris responded she does not want to commit a staff member because it would be difficult to find that person when they are working within or outside of the park.

Amy asked if users could check the nets out at the aquatic center by using their driver's license as a deposit.

Chris responded that they have not fully vetted out the location near the tennis courts that would be appropriate to access the nets. Checking out the nets may entail the use of a door code, but finding a storage space near the tennis courts with a door to fit all eight nets may be hard to find. Storage space is lacking in City Park.

Amy asked if the players would be able to break down the nets themselves, in order to help store them.

Chris responded that these nets are more heavy duty and would require tools to take apart.

Bob asked if we could put a small inexpensive tracker on the nets. If the nets are 24 feet long, they will be hard to steal.

Brian added that the nets would need to be folded in half to get through the tennis court doors. A 22-foot net apparatus will be hard to maneuver around.

Kim G stated that Blue Valley Hilltop Recreation Center has very similar nets and they roll their nets on and off their indoor courts every day. It might be beneficial to go check those out and see how they maneuver them into a closet.

Chris stated that building pickle ball courts might be an option, if this is something the Council wants to consider. Pickle ball courts cost approximately \$20,000.00-\$40,000.00 a court, depending on many variables. Chris stated she is in favor of the pickle ball playing, but we need to prioritize funds and find out what priority pickle ball has on the list of numerous parks projects.

Chair Karen Ward- Reimer asked if pickle ball will be a featured section in the upcoming program guide.

Chris responded a ¼ page of information may be included just to let people know the courts and nets are available. We will have the nets and the logistics figured out by then.

B. Update on Ironwoods Park Project

Brian informed the group that the project is delayed. The contractor for the project, O'Donnell, is not optimistic about being able to pave asphalt this year. It must be 50 degrees and rising to pave, which is not likely to happen for the rest of 2018. They are however, able to keep working on the concrete improvement projects in the park. There is work currently being done on the sidewalk from the Lodge to the Nature Center and concrete work near cabin number one.

II. New Business

A. Outcome of Public Meeting About Relocating Former City Hall

Chris informed the group that the consensus of the Council following the public meeting is that the former City Hall would remain at the 96th and Lee property. There was a good turnout at the meeting, especially considering the snowfall earlier in the day. Chris stated that the previous RFP for the property that was issued in February 8, 2018, had 11 submittals, but will need to be revised and reissued as soon as possible.

Council Liaison Sipple stated he thought it was implied by a council member of Ward One, that the City should possibly keep both the former Fire Station and the former City Hall. There are several building configuration options for the RFP but the main goal is to maximize park and green space.

Chris stated that the RFP should be reissued before the Holidays. She has reached out to several people that submitted for the first RFP, to let them know that a new RFP will be reissued soon.

Gary stated that unfortunately, he could not make the meeting but his opinion is that the former City Hall should be on the property next to the current City Hall because that is the center of the City. In addition to the former City Hall being more centralized, it would give more green space for the 96th and Lee Park.

Council Liaison Sipple stated that several people at the meeting had the same opinion as Gary, but City Council voted to keep the building. The next step is determining where to move the building on the site. It must be moved before construction of the new Fire Station can begin.

Steve asked if City Council decided what to do with the former Fire Station.

Council Liaison Sipple stated that he thought most of the members of City Council thought the current Fire Station should go, leaving more room for green space. Many people at the meeting stated they wanted to keep the former Fire Station, so keeping it is still an option at this point. City Council has looked at making the former Fire Station an open shelter; however, that would cost at a minimum of \$400,000.00.

Chris stated she has not received the top priority list from each City Council Member in what they would each like to see in the park but expects to get the information soon.

Council Liaison Cain suggested sending an email to the City Administrator and all City Council members reminding them about the priority list for the park.

Chris stated that an option in the park planning process would be to have a charrette with the parks neighboring residents, staff and Council Members.

Council Liaison Cain asked when the charrette would come in the planning process.

Chris stated it would come early, before the plan goes to the Planning Commission. The charrette would need to be included in the RFP.

Council Liaison Sipple offered to help set up the new RFP with Staff, Park's Advisory Board Members, and City Council Members.

B. CAPRA Accreditation

Chris stated she would like to table the discussion because she does not feel the department is ready for the self-assessment. CAPRA accreditation forces your agency to look at itself and see where inefficiencies lie. It is a very long and detail oriented process.

Council Liaison Sipple asked when the deadline to apply is.

Chris responded that there is no specific date but rather it is a series of deadlines based on when you want the final visit by the CAPRA team. You have two years from the application to the final visit; otherwise, you must start over with the application.

Council Liaison Sipple asked what the benefit of receiving the accreditation is, will it make you more eligible for state or federal funding.

Chris stated not directly, but indirectly yes. CAPRA accreditation makes you have useful data and plans available when state or federal funding comes available, making it easier and faster to apply for funding. More importantly, it makes you a better agency and helps you plan for the future.

Steve asked over what period of time would the pre work occur and what percentage of the staff's time it would take.

Chris responded that it would take about three years. It would most likely occur over weekly 2 hour meetings with Staff. Chris stated she thought the Staff would be ready to

take on the challenge and they will move forward on a preliminary self- assessment in the near future.

III. Staff Reports

Brian reported the following:

- Pre-bid meeting on City Park pond had a good turnout of contractors. Everyone who would like to bid on this project needed to be at the mandatory meeting today. City Park pond was damaged during a flood last year. The repair project includes stacking limestone around the perimeter on top of a concrete base, and improving the spillway with pavers that are more durable as well.
- Bike Committee met today and are discussing South Loop routes; great feedback from the Bike Committee from first hand biking experiences.
- Meeting with regional Park Directors to unify trail standards and regulations especially pertaining to electronic vehicles and e-bikes on trails. We are interested in unifying and modernizing trail regulations to include ADA power assisted vehicles.

Chris reported the following

- Kansas Recreation Park Association tour went very well, one of the best highlights from her service as President. The largest populated city visited was 3,500 people and it was very interesting to see how smaller cities function.

Kim reported the following:

- A/V projects at both Community Center and Lodge at Ironwoods are completed.
- Soccer season has ended. Waste Water Management project taking over fields 11/12 caused parking issues for soccer. We are looking at moving games to later times in the day.
- Next month will start accepting application for Aquatic Center positions.
- Holiday Lighting is at 6:00 PM on Monday, November 19.
- Breakfast with Santa on December 8, at the Lodge at Ironwoods.

April reported the following:

- “Dancers” was dedicated on Monday, November 5, before City Council meeting. The artist, Ewerdt Hilgemann and his wife were here from Amsterdam for the dedication.
- Holiday Traditions on the Prairie is a free event at the Oxford Schoolhouse on the same day as Breakfast with Santa, please stop by and bring the family.
- “Walking Woman” will hopefully be installed before the end of the year.

IV. Next scheduled Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 11th at 5:30 p.m. at Vista 154 at the Ironhorse Golf Course.

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Claxton, Parks and Recreation Director