



**ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Meeting Minutes – April 15, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.**

*To reduce the likelihood of the spread of COVID-19 and to comply with social distancing recommendations, this meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was conducted remotely using the Zoom media format. The meeting was livestreamed on [YouTube] and the public could access the livestream by going to [www.leawood.org/](http://www.leawood.org/).*

Board members in attendance: Chair Karen Ward-Reimer, Kim Galbraith, JoLynn Hobbs, Greg Williams, and Gary Swanson.

Board members absent: Bob Wright and Amy Vlastic

Council liaisons present: Chuck Sipple and Julie Cain.

Staff members present: Holly York, Chris Claxton, Kim Curran, and Camille Sumrall.

Chair Karen Ward-Reimer called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Greg Williams made a motion to approve the minutes from March 11, 2021 meeting. JoLynn Hobbs seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**I. Old Business**

**A. Update on City Park Upgrades Project**

Chris stated that they have gone through all necessary approvals and are now working on smaller details like door locks and audio visual components. They will bid out the project in late May or early June. The project is still on target for the original timeline. Chris added there have been issues with the current pool filters, which will be temporarily repaired for this summer and then replaced with the new pool building.

**B. Update on Design of New Parks Maintenance Facility**

Chris stated that the new parks maintenance facility will be going to the Planning Commission on April 27. They are looking into the opportunity to include solar panels, however they may be cost prohibitive. There were no objections from citizens or businesses during the interact meeting for the project.

**C. Update on Trail Project- City Hall to Tomahawk Creek Trail**

Chris stated they are still awaiting word on who will receive funds from the Kansas Wildlife and Parks grant. They have also submitted a grant to KDOT for funding. They will likely hear if they receive funds from Kansas Wildlife and Parks in a week. They will likely hear if they received funds from KDOT in about a month.

**D. Update on Fish Stocking Program**

Chris stated that City Park and the North and South Lake on Tomahawk Creek Parkway will have several varieties of fish stocked next week.

Council Liaison Sipple asked if the middle lake on Tomahawk Park and Ironwoods Park pond would be stocked as well.

Chris responded that they will not stock the middle lake due to low water level. They will also not be stocking the Ironwoods pond until the silt removal project is done this fall.

Council Liaison Cain asked if the bridge may be the first part completed of the Ironwoods Park pond project. If the bridge is completed first, it may lessen the impact on park users.

Chris stated that they will likely remove silt first but will be mindful of effect on park users. Chris added that the bridge comes pre-constructed and is placed with a crane so the process won't take too long once the bridge arrives.

Council Liaison Cain stated it may be a good opportunity to name the bridge in honor of someone.

#### **E. Update on New Restroom on Tomahawk Parkway**

Chris stated that staff will be presenting an agreement for engineering services to City Council shortly. Alice Hawk has met with McCarthy Construction on the new flush restroom. McCarthy may be willing to donate some of their services to help with the project.

## **II. New Business**

### **A. Update on New Fire Station #1 Project**

Chris stated that the Governing Body has approved the new fire station plan. The project will likely break ground in October, 2021 or earlier.

Council Liaison Sipple asked if the city staff would put a rendering of the new fire station on the website.

Chris stated she would follow up with the IT staff to get this completed.

JoLynn states that she is hopeful that City Council will value the historic buildings on the property. She added she is hopeful they remain intact because they are an important part of the history of Leawood.

### **B. Staff Reports**

Holly

- Meeting with Artist Selection Panel on artwork for the new pool building. They have narrowed the selection down to three artists and will be making a selection next week.
- RFP out for the new historic book project. This book will encompass the time period from 1997 up to the present.
- "Women of The World" art dedication will take place at the Justice Center courtyard on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

- Art dedication for “Inspiration” has been moved to September 10<sup>th</sup> to allow the artist to attend.
- Kansas City Symphony Mobile Music box will be performing at the field at 119<sup>th</sup> and Tomahawk Parkway on May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm.
- The Leawood Stage Company will be presenting “Seussical” in mid-July at Ironwoods Amphitheatre.
- New programs including “Cinema in the City” will take place on June 1 and July 30 featuring, *The Little Rascals* and *Babe*.

#### Kim

- New upcoming programs include an Intro to Disc Golf class, E-sports League, and Shark Week festivities at the pool.
- First Tee programs have begun at Ironhorse.
- The Lodge at Ironwoods is open for events following safety guidelines.
- Soccer has started with over 1,700 kids participating.
- Tennis lessons are starting in May with great participation numbers.
- Pool passes are being sold to Leawood residents.
- Registration for the all new “Rocket Kids Camp” has been very successful. During this camp, kids will create their own rocket and launch them.
- Swim Team and Dive Team registration is open.

#### Camille

- Developing social media plans and social media contests to keep users engaged virtually.
- Working with Vista 154 on new marketing materials.
- Working on Leawood “Recreator” Newsletter content.
- Working on designing and printing banners and marketing collateral for 2021.

#### Brian (*reported by Chris for Brian*)

- Cleaned and filled Gezer Park pond.
- Working on opening pool for the season.
- Spraying medians and fields for weeds.
- Completed landscaping around both new art pieces.
- Working on hiring seasonal employees.

#### Chris

- Golf Course parking lot project is almost complete.

### **III. Miscellaneous**

Council Liaison Sipple asked if the RFP for the artwork at the pool included artwork at the new bike hub station.

Holly replied that it does not, but that artwork is on her radar. She explained the RFP was specifically for the pool house check-in area.

JoLynn asked if the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities will continue.

Chris stated it will be discussed on April 19<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

Council Liaison Sipple asked what other cities are planning for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Chris stated that many other cities are planning on fireworks but she will follow up.

JoLynn requested that City Park hours are posted outside of the park on a sign.

The next meeting will be held May 11<sup>th</sup>, via Zoom format.

Kim Galbraith made a motion adjourn the meeting. JoLynn Hobbs seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Claxton, Parks and Recreation Director