



ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes – June 10, 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/.

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

Council liaisons present: Chuck Sipple and Julie Cain.

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

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

Bob Wright made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 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 Trail Project- City Hall to Tomahawk Creek Trail

Brian stated that they received a grant from the Kansas Department of Transportation for a total of \$937,500.00. Brian stated he was thankful for the work of city staff, the Mayor, community members and city committee members that expressed written support of the grant. The Kansas Department of Transportation will send documents to finalize the grant in the next few months. Brian stated several of the construction documents will need to be updated before the project goes out to bid. He stated the goal for the project is to have a contract ready for City Council approval in September. The project will be completed in 2022.

Council Liaison Cain asked if the city funds allocated previously before the grant was received could be used for a mural on the new trail connection.

Chris stated that the funds would need to come from the Public Art fund if it is a public art project.

B. Update on Restroom Project- North Lake

Brian stated that they are moving forward with finalizing the site work for the restroom. They are also looking at including ADA pathways to the restroom. Brian stated they are in communication with McCarthy Construction on potential pro-bono work for the project.

Chuck asked how much money has been raised to date for the project.

Chris stated that she will speak with the treasurer of the Leawood Foundation to find out how much funding they have received through donations.

C. Update on Parks Maintenance Facility

Brian stated they are working with planning on finalizing plans for the building. He believed that breaking ground in October would be likely.

JoLynn asked if there had been any other discussion about the use of solar panels for the building.

Brian stated they have solar as an add/alternate for the project and once they receive bids including solar they will move forward based on cost. Brian stated there are two roofs that may be able to have solar panels. The panels could potentially generate 40% of the energy needed. There would also be additional costs to screen the solar panels based on Leawood City Code.

D. Update on July 4th Fireworks Displays

Kim stated that City Council has approved the July 4th fireworks display, bus transportation, games, music, and food trucks. Staff is currently working on a layout and plan for optimal Covid-19 safety. They are working on spacing out food trucks and picnic tables which will allow more space between families. The games and rides will primarily be one way, with little interaction between users. They will encourage mask wearing on the buses and encourage people to walk. Mad science and Flashback will be providing live performances.

Chris added that if there is rain on July 4th, they will have fireworks only on July 5th.

JoLynn stated that she believes residents will be very happy with the event.

E. Pool Project

Brian stated they will be having a pre-bid meeting on June 17 for any potential contractors. The meeting will begin at City Hall but will also include a tour of the current Leawood Aquatic Center. The formal bid opening will be July 1st and a contract should be presented at an August City Council meeting.

II. New Business

A. Geese Population Control

Council Liaison Sipple asked what measures are being taken to control the goose population in the city, particularly along Tomahawk Creek Parkway and the lakes.

Brian stated that the Public Works department is currently in the process of developing a plan to make improvements along Tomahawk Creek Parkway including bike lanes and landscaping. There may be an opportunity to include native grasses that may deter geese. Geese typically like flat areas with mowed grass so they have a direct line of sight for predators. Taller grasses may help deter them.

Kim G. stated that when she worked at the Sprint Campus they had issues with geese. They hired a man with a trained dog who kept the geese away. This option is environmentally friendly and community friendly.

B. Staff Reports

Holly

- The finalized Public Arts Master Plan will be presented to City Council in July.
- Grinnin' and Groovin' kids' concerts series has started with a great turnout of over 250 people in attendance.
- Summer Art Camps have begun.
- Agreement for Rock Cottage Glass Art will be sent to City Council in July for approval of the new glass art at the Leawood Aquatic Center.
- The Leawood Stage Company will be presenting "Seussical" at the Ironwoods Amphitheatre on July 9-11 and July 15-17 at 8pm.

Kim

- T-Ball beginning soon with a great turnout of 51 teams.
- Half Day Camps are almost sold out.
- Camp Out with Dad is sold out.
- Nature Camps are almost completely sold out.
- First Tee programs have begun at Ironhorse and are sold out.
- The Lodge at Ironwoods is open for events following safety guidelines.
- Swim Team and Dive Team have begun with meets on June 10th, 15th, 22nd and 24th.

Camille

- Working on the upcoming Fall/Winter 21-22 guide.
- Developing social media plans and social media contests to keep users engaged virtually.
- Working with Troon management for Vista 154 new marketing materials.
- Working on Leawood "Recreator" Newsletter content.
- Working on designing and printing banners and marketing collateral for the remainder of 2021.

Brian

- Meeting with the Johnson County wastewater staff in the next week to go over the progress of project on Lee Boulevard.

Chris

- State of the City and Lunar New Year will be happening in 2022.
- Shark week will take place at the Leawood Aquatic Center on August 9-14.
- Exploring putting pickle ball courts in the area just west of the baseball fields which were previously soccer fields. The city has a 99 year lease on the land which is owned by the County. She added that a community garden might be able to be placed in the area west of the cell tower at Lee and Mission.
- Decision packages were approved including a new slide for the zero depth pool and new parks maintenance employee.
- There is an uptick in memorial bench and tree donations.
- Ironhorse Golf Course now serving margaritas and will soon be offering pizza.

- Working to present updates to the interior of Ironhorse Golf Course to the Governing Body

III. Miscellaneous

Council Liaison Cain asked the wastewater project will interfere with the 4th of July Celebration.

Chris responded that it would not interfere. She added that staff will post on social media asking guests to use the trail or take the busses.

Council Liaison Cain asked if there will be a wrought iron fence placed between the new development and homes at Ironwoods Park. She stated she believed the homes seemed very close to the trail and the sooner the fence is installed the better.

Brian added that the forestry team has also been adding trees to the fence line to hide the new development.

The next meeting will be held July 15th, at City Hall Council Chambers.

Bob Wright made a motion adjourn the meeting. Kim Galbraith 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