



MINUTES OF PARK BOARD MEETING 10/24/2023

Date and time: 10/24/23 04:30 pm
Present: Brenna Kemp, Michael Shindler, Shane Clines, Rick Shiverdecker, Larry Doyle, Jerra Hedges, Cecil Brandt, Council Liaison Bob Washington, Mayor Steve Myers, Int. Director of Administration Courtney Doyle, Parks and Rec Director Clay Caswell, Assistant Parks and Rec Director Tara O'Shea, Facilities Supervisor Samantha Schaefer, Tanglewood manager Jamey Martin, Chief Financial Officer Dustin Dougherty, Deputy City Clerk Doris Stone, and City Clerk Kathie Ratliff
Absent: Robert Wilson, Wayne Bill
Location: Legends Rec-Plex
Projects/Tags: park board

DISCUSSION

1. CALL TO ORDER.

The meeting was called to order at 4:25 by Shane Clines. Roll call was noted with an introduction of all staff, leadership, and board members.

2. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

There was none.

3. REPORTS

Program & Activities: Due to a lack of interest, the Halloween Dance was canceled. Veterans Lake is being stocked with trout since there is a lot of fishing done there. Youth basketball begins next week. The 5K Turkey Trot takes place on November 4th, and the Festival of Lights is near.

Maintenance: This team has been working on fixing the slides at Veterans Park, the fishing platform at Truman Lake, memorial benches and flower beds for the Garden Club, and Festival of Lights preparations. They've also been hard at work removing diseased trees. Member Cecil Brandt discussed the need for upkeep at Carver Park, giving paint on the basketball courts as an example.

Swimming Pool: Pool attendance was down 24% from the previous year (perhaps due to the splashpad being out of commission for more than three weeks in 2022), but swim lessons were popular. Caswell revealed that the pool's long-standing water leak was finally repaired. He claimed it cost roughly \$6,000 and that instead of losing a foot of water every day, they now lose an inch or two per week.

Tanglewood Golf Course: Director Caswell reported that the golf course received \$199,000 in ARPA reimbursements for the irrigation system.

4. Parks and Recreation Budget Report



Dustin Dougherty, our new Chief Financial Officer, was introduced to the Park Board by Director Caswell. CFO Dougherty visited with the Park Board to review the Year-to-Date operating statement.

Member Michael Shindler asked how much revenue the sales tax collects each year. CFO Dougherty stated that, while it is shared with stormwater, it is somewhat more than \$900,000 to which Parks and Recreation receives half. The Legends Rec-Plex facility payment is \$399,000, and the current loan debt is \$4,228,956 as of September 30, 2023.

Overall, Parks & Recreation membership revenue was up by \$17,292 from last year at this time, with total YTD revenue of \$125,915.

5. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

6. NEW BUSINESS

2024 Rates and Fees

Director Caswell reviewed the related rates and fees sheet with the board explaining each section as they assessed the proposed changes.

The number of shelter rentals has only slightly increased over the years, and the proposed increases are \$10 for shelter rentals, \$25 for the Scout Cabin, and \$5 for additional tables and trash cans. Program fees are based on expenses.

Tanglewood course manager Jamey Martin discussed increasing fees to meet operational needs, citing a 30% increase in fertilizer costs. He emphasized that the goal is not to gouge people but to ensure operational needs are met. A comparison of other city-owned golf courses was provided, and the room agreed that competitive rates will be maintained. The proposed average rate increase for 2024 is \$3, potentially increasing revenue by \$40,000.

The discussion then turned to eliminating cart owners' fees, as most homeowners near the Tanglewood course own their own carts. The \$300 "Tanglewood Home Owner Private Trail Fee" is proposed to be eliminated since only four have been issued in 2023.

Decision Motion was made by Larry Doyle and Seconded by Brenna Kemp to recommend that the Fulton City Council eliminates the \$300 Tanglewood Homeowner Private Trail Fee and Increase the Cart Fee from \$8 to \$10 for Season Pass Holders. Seven members in favor, two members absent (Bill, Wilson).

The discussion concluded with Capital Improvement needs for Tanglewood, including building repairs, cart paths, golf carts, and a new counter in the golf shop. Manager Martin suggested establishing reserves from golf rounds.

Rates were reviewed for the swimming pool. Rate increases are \$1 for daily entry, \$10 for passbooks, \$25 for family season pass, \$10 individual season pass, and an increase of \$75 per pool party.



The Rec-Plex's current rates are set appropriately, with the only proposed increase being \$1 for youth daily entry.

Decision Motion was made by Michael Shindler and Seconded by Rick Shiverdecker to recommend to the Fulton City Council passage of the new rates and fees as presented. Seven members in favor, two members absent (Bill, Wilson).

7. Announcements

Director Caswell announced that Park Board meetings will be monthly from now on with the next meeting on November 28, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. Discussion at the next meeting will be related to Callaway County Special Services interest in partnering with the City to build inclusive playgrounds.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
/s/Kathie Ratliff
City Clerk