

MINUTES: PARK BOARD MEETING – MAY 2, 2024

Date and time: 5/2/2024 5:15 p.m.
Present: Shane Clines, Rick Shiverdecker, Cecil Brandt, Jerra Hedges, Wayne Bill, Michael Shindler, Councilwoman Lauren Nelson, Mayor Steve Myers, Parks and Recreation Director Clay Caswell, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Tara O'Shea, Chief Financial Officer Dustin Dougherty, and City Clerk Kathie Ratliff. Visitor: Kathy Omohundro.
Absent: Larry Doyle, Brenna Kemp, Bob Wilson, Council Liaison Bob Washington, and Director of Administration Courtney Doyle
Location: Legends Rec-Plex

DISCUSSION

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Shane Clines called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Roll call was noted.

2. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Kathy Omohundro spoke about Pickleball Courts.

3. MINUTES

Decision: Motion was made by Michael Shindler and Seconded by Rick Shiverdecker to approve the minutes from both March 14 and April 4 meetings of the Park Board. All in favor, three absent (Doyle, Hedges, Wilson).

4. P&R BUDGET REPORT

CFO Dougherty conducted a thorough review of the March month-end budget, noting a rise in facility rentals. Expenditures were found to be within expected parameters.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Splash Pad Fence Discussion Update

There has not been an update on this item. It will go before the Public Service Commission in May.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Recreational Program Update

O'Shea provided an overview of the many programs in process. She shared that there were approximately 100 participants in the kickball league and 20 attended the magician's event at the firehouse. She also mentioned an upcoming illusionist performance scheduled for this Friday night and that splashpad will be opening on May 3rd.

O'Shea and Caswell discussed the upcoming opening of the pool, which is planned for the weekend before Memorial Day. They confirmed that for this season the pool is fully staffed with employees, including two in concessions, a manager and assistant manager, and 4-6 lifeguards on a typical rotation, with additional staff depending on swim lesson schedules. On busy days, there will be 5-6 lifeguard manned stations with one working on rotation. The lifeguards, typically aged between 15 and 22, with an average age of 17, undergo various trainings including active shooter response, rescue skills with EMTs, fire extinguisher usage, and stop the bleed training. Additionally, there will be Thompson Center autism-friendly pool training and a final comprehensive training before the pool's launch.

The Mayor praised the collaborative training program between the City Parks and Recreation department and Emergency Responders. Caswell warmly shared about seeing the lifeguards' confidence grow through the training process. To prevent burnout and disconnect, they hold in-service training sessions

every other week and routinely conduct spot checks, allowing others to potentially participate in observing or conducting their own checks concurrently.

Capital Improvements for 2025

Director Caswell shared with the group a wishlist of park and facility wants and needs to be considered as Capital Improvements. He sought input on what the group felt was a priority to request. The deadline for submission to the City Council is the end of June, however some items on the list have been there for up to a decade.

Mike Shindler suggested dividing the list into maintenance and improvements. CFO Dougherty clarified that items under \$5k are not part of the capital budget, and emphasized that this list is separate from the adopted annual budget, subject to potential changes before finalization.

The group suggested these items for consideration:

- Handicapped accessibility docks for both lakes.
- Repairing the Stinson Creek trail from the covered bridge to McIntire School.
- Acquisition of a park truck.
- Procurement of additional vehicles.
- Creating an inclusive splashpad in Carver Park.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next Park Board meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2024, at 5:15 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Decision Motion was made by Rick Shiverdecker and Seconded by Wayne Bill to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. All in favor, three absent (Doyle, Hedges, Wilson).

/s/Kathie Ratliff, City Clerk