

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 17, 2017

APPROVED BY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD ON FEBRUARY 21, 2017

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department Board meeting held January 17, 2017 was called to order by President Reggie St. John at 1908 hours.

Roll call was taken with six members present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President – Reggie St. John; Vice President – Scott Smith; Secretary – Christy Marker; Treasurer – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Jason Cole, Susan McAuliffe

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lynette Manley, Jody Pasalich, Jake Simmons

VISITOR: Bryce Mereness, The Excelsior Springs Standard

STAFF PRESENT: Nate Williams, Director; Chad Clevenger, Parks Superintendent; Janet Morehead, Administrative Assistant – Parks and Recreation

Parks and Recreation Board President Reggie St. John called for the consideration of the agenda.

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Jason Cole, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John Nays – 0

Approval of the minutes was postponed until the February 21, 2017 Parks and Recreation Board meeting because there were not enough board members present at tonight’s meeting that attended the December 27, 2016 meeting.

After questions were asked and answered about the financial report, Susan McAuliffe made the motion to accept the financial report dated December 31, 2016 and prepared January 5, 2017. Scott Smith seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Jason Cole, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John Nays – 0

STAFF REPORTS

There were no questions on the staff report in the Board packet.

Nate mentioned that there had been concerns about the Senior Exercise Program offered by the Senior Center taking away interest in the Community Center's membership, programs, and use of the Community Center. Comparing the Senior Center's December 2015 numbers against December 2016 numbers, there were less seniors exercising in December 2016 than in December 2015. There are a group of seniors walking after exercise but they are members of the Community Center.

Chad Clevenger shared with the Board that Wal-Mart donated a large amount of grass seed to the Department. A large portion of the grass seed will be used at the Curtis Avenue park.

Sherri Branson-Hurt said that Kibler Park looks fabulous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - none

OLD BUSINESS

Nate Williams updated the Board about the proposed dog park. He presented the dog park to the Capital Improvements Authority on January 9, 2017.

The Department sent an informational letter to 24 residents on Elm Road and Orrick Road. These residences are adjacent to the proposed dog park area at Eddie Raper Park. Besides the informational letter there was a "Questions, Concerns, and Comment" page that they were asked to complete and return to the Parks and Recreation Department in the enclosed addressed and stamped envelope. Responses are due by January 27, 2017.

When the residents respond, Nate will contact them to answer their questions and allay their concerns.

Nate attended the Kansas City Metro Area Director's meeting on Friday, January 13, 2017 and discussed the dog park. Lee's Summit's dog park is surrounded by houses and in North Kansas City people wanted to move close to the dog park.

The dog park will be presented for approval at the February Capital Improvement Authority's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held on naming the park on Curtis Avenue. A ballot vote was taken.

Luna Park received two votes, Crescent Valley Park received four votes and Crescent Lake Park received one vote. The park on Curtis Avenue will be named Crescent Valley Park.

The 2017 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation calendar was given to each board member. The calendars were taken to the elementary schools for distribution to all students. Calendars were also taken to the Middle School, High School and day care facilities. Calendars are also available at the front desk at the Community Center.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Nate reminded the Board that the presale party for the Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Foundation Piccadilly Gala, “Let’s Flamingle” is this Thursday, January 19, 2017 at Ventana from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Reggie St. John asked the board members if an earlier meeting time or different night would be helpful. Discussion was held.

Comments ranged from earlier time would be good but could the board members driving from Kansas City get there by 6; what about the board members serving on another board that meets at 6 p.m. on the same night; what about the second Tuesday and would that impact the arrival of the financials, as it had in the past.

Reggie will talk with Steve Marriott about financials and meeting times and dates.

The February meeting will be February 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Adjusting the meeting date and time will be discussed at the February meeting.

Mayor Brad Eales; Jamie Blackburn, Administrative Assistant – Community Development; and Nate Williams will be attending two Grant Writing Workshops in Jefferson City tomorrow, Wednesday, January 18. One workshop is for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the other is Recreational Trails Program (RTP).

More discussion was held on the name of the new park on Curtis Avenue. Luna Valley Park was suggested. Board members liked it and all voted to change the name of the park from Crescent Valley Park to Luna Valley Park.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Christy Marker seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Jason Cole, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Scott Smith, Reggie St. John
Nays – 0

Meeting adjourned at 1957 hours.