

# **EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**MARCH 15, 2011**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department Board meeting held March 15, 2011 was called to order by President Sharon Powell.

Roll call was taken.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sharon Powell, President; Joyce Green, Vice President; Theresa Henson, Secretary; Reggie St. John, Jeff Duncan, Susan McAuliffe, Keith Bowen

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** John Lacy, Bill Griffey III

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON:** absent

**STAFF PRESENT:** Steve Sellers, Director; Janet Morehead, Administrative Assistant

**VISITORS:** Bob Gerdes, Good Samaritan Center; Gene Deckard, Excelsior Springs Garden Club; Kristin Rulon, The Excelsior Springs Standard; Laura and Matt Reinschmidt, Ballet North

Sharon Powell asked for consideration of the agenda. Steve Sellers would like to add New Business: C: Discussion of Roof. Steve Sellers would like to also move the discussion of the community garden project to right after the visitor section. Sharon Powell added that Laura Reinschmidt will be here but she was teaching a class and will be here as soon as she can. When she arrives, she will be the next item addressed by the Board.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to accept the proposed changes to the agenda. Theresa Henson seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0.

Steve Sellers introduced Theresa Henson to lead the discussion about the community garden project. Theresa Henson introduced Bob Gerdes of the Good Samaritan Center and Gene Deckard of the Excelsior Springs Garden Club. The community garden will be a cooperative project between the Good Samaritan Center, the Excelsior Springs Garden Club and the Parks and Recreation Department.

Steve Sellers thanked Kristin Rulon of The Excelsior Springs Standard for the informative articles she has been writing about the community garden.

The Parks and Recreation Department will plot the garden and build the raised beds. The

Parks and Recreation Department employees will prepare the garden spot in the spring and put it to bed in the fall.

Bob Gerdes said that there has been lots of interest in the community garden. Job Corps students have volunteered along with people from the community.

Gene Deckard mentioned that there are lots of areas throughout town that could be used as garden spots.

Theresa Henson said that the first garden spot would be located near the Ruey Anna just off Broadway.

Joyce Green made the motion that the Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department enter into an agreement with the Good Samaritan Center and other local groups to produce one or two garden spots this spring. Jeff Duncan seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0.

Thank you cards from the Harold VanBebber family (Joyce Green's father) and the ladies of the city exercise program were shared with the Board.

Steve Sellers presented a budget amendment. John Lacy had suggested adjusting the budget midyear and then closer to the yearend. Steve Sellers explained the budget adjustments. Steve Sellers stated that overall the budget seemed to be in pretty good shape. Property taxes were up.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to approve the budget adjustment. Reggie St. John seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0.

Joyce Green made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2011 Parks and Recreation Board meeting as written. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed 7 – 0.

Reggie St. John made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2011 Parks and Recreation Board meeting as written. Jeff Duncan seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0.

Jeff Duncan made the motion to accept the Financial report as presented. Reggie St. John seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0.

## **STAFF REPORT**

The fishing dock and trail to it should be installed by July.

The Board will meet at the maintenance shed at 6:30 pm before the next meeting on April 19, 2011 to see the improvements.

Jack Swearingin has been hired as full time employee. The part time workers will be mowing and working on projects. The mowing crew will be picking up trash before they mow over it.

There are 22 youth spring soccer teams. The Excelsior Springs High School Soccer Coach Mark Bullimore held a soccer clinic on March 12 for our soccer coaches, players and parents.

There are 12 youth volleyball teams.

There are nine "B" League Women's volleyball teams and five "C" League Women's volleyball teams.

There was a nice article in the Excelsior Springs Standard about the exercise classes.

The Picasso Club continues to draw budding artists.

At the March 8, 2011 Capital Improvements Authority meeting, the CIA approved the Parks and Recreation Department's request of purchasing seven swing sets and mulch for the parks. The CIA also approved the purchase and installation of the handicapped fishing dock and the walk trail to it for Powell Lake at Century Park. The purchases went before the City Council and were approved.

Laura and Matt Reinschmidt arrived.

Sharon Powell introduced Laura and Matt Reinschmidt of Ballet North. The Arts Development Council partnered with them in bringing the ballet troupe to town last fall and has partnered with them again in presenting Sleeping Beauty in Excelsior Springs in June and presenting another performance in November.

Ballet North teaches classical ballet. Ballet North would offer camps this summer and then hold classes during the week and on Saturdays, starting in July. The hardwood floors would be good but barres would need to be purchased. There would be a minimum of five in the classes and no more than 18 or 20.

A short discussion followed. More information will be gathered and Steve Sellers will place it on agenda in April.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Steve Sellers updated the Board on the website that Kevin Morgan of Morgansites is developing. There will be information and links to forms and pictures. The initial cost will be \$1,900.00. This will set up the website and train employees.

Reggie St. John made the motion to approve the proposal from Morgansites for developing the website and professional services in the amount of not more than \$2,000. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0.

Steve Sellers discussed various methods of controlling the erosion along the Fishing River Linear Park walk trail and along the walk trail on Highway 69. Riprap, trenches, and signs were discussed.

The Siloam Mountain wood walk trail should be completed by the end of April. Steve Sellers said the crew will continue to check for moss on the boards.

Steve Sellers told the board if they have ideas for new programs to please let him know.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Steve Sellers updated the Board on the Highway 69 Walk Trail extension. The neighbors like the idea of a bridge better than a culvert.

The Midwest Public Risk (MPR) survey list continues to be worked on. The rock wall at Sunnyside will be repaired instead of torn out and possibly a picnic table will be put there.

Steve Sellers discussed the Springtime Umpires Association. David Stalder is managing the Association. Bill Griffey III signs the checks and Sharon Powell is the backup signature person. Jeff Duncan asked about the checks and balances and Steve Seller said the Umpire's Association is working as a functioning association. It is a board within a board. Steve Sellers will have the new Umpire's Association Board in place by next month.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Steve Sellers would like to, with the Board's permission and vote, be able to post and advertise for the position of Assistant Director of Recreation tomorrow. He will talk with the Human Resource Coordinator about benefits, etc.

Steve Sellers suggests appointing a screening committee to interview candidates. Joyce Green suggests keeping the job open for four weeks.

Jeff Duncan made the motion to advertise for an Assistant Director of Recreation, based on the job description provided. Reggie St. John seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0.

Steve Sellers discussed texting alerts with the Board. Mobile Media Technologies LLC – TextCaster, is approximately \$550.00 per year with unlimited texts. Steve Sellers continues to look for a corporate sponsor but has not been able to find one.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to enter into an agreement with Mobile Media Technologies LLC – Text Caster for text alerts. Theresa Henson seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Steve Sellers shared with the Board information about the Community Center roof. The roof needs to be repaired to stop the leaks. A temporary fix can be done but a more permanent solution needs to be found. To replace the roof would cost about \$30,000.00.

New gutters were installed on the west side of the Community Center.

The west side of the building needs to be repaired. Steve Sellers will get more information on it.

Theresa Henson asked how the Community Center Committee was going. The Community Center is in the hands in the City Council.

Steve Sellers reminded everyone to vote for the sales tax on April 5.

Theresa Henson made the motion to adjourn. Reggie St. John seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0.