

# EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**APRIL 16, 2013**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department Board meeting held April 16, 2013 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Sharon Powell.

Roll call was taken with 8 board members present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sharon Powell, President; Reggie St. John, Vice President; Susan McAuliffe, Secretary; Keith Bowen, Treasurer; Sherri Branson-Hurt; Theresa Henson; Dennis Lollar; Christy Marker

**MEMBER ABSENT:** Zac Ganzer

**COUNCIL LIAISON:** none Sharon Powell announced to the Board that due to his additional job responsibilities, Chad Taylor has resigned from the City Council. After someone is appointed to the City Council to fill his position, a council liaison will be appointed to the Parks and Recreation Board.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Katie Noyd, Director; Janet Morehead, Administrative Assistant – Office; Steve Porter, Maintenance

Sharon Powell asked for consideration of the agenda. There were no changes.

Reggie St. John made the motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2013 Parks and Recreation Board meeting as written. Christy Marker seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0 – 1. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes – 7 – Keith Bowen, Theresa Henson, Dennis Lollar, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Sharon Powell, Reggie St. John. Nays – 0 Abstained – 1 – Sherri Branson-Hurt

Katie noted the memo from Steve Marriott, Director of Administrative Services explaining the Parks and Recreation monies that had not been transferred to the General Fund for the Senior Center.

Katie Noyd discussed the financial report. She informed the Board that she was working on the F/Y 2013-2014 budget and that the Senior Center budget would stay separate from the Parks and Recreation budget for this next fiscal year and then be reevaluated to see if they would be combined for F/Y 2014-2015.

Katie is working on the Annual Report. She will present it to the City Council in May. Beth Barbee is compiling numbers for it and the preliminary F/Y 2013-2014 budget will be included in it.

Reggie St. John had questions about the different background checks. Katie explained that Southeastern Security Consultants, Inc. is for youth coaches and Validity is for employees i.e. officials, part timers, rangers, etc.

Katie also noted that line item 210-1001-451-60.01 is overbudget due to the fire insurance money not being distributed as it should have been.

After questions were asked and answered, Theresa Henson made the motion to approve the March 2013 Expenditures dated April 4 and 5, 2013 as received. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Keith Bowen, Theresa Henson, Dennis Lollar, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Sharon Powell, Reggie St. John. Nays – 0

## **STAFF REPORTS**

There were no questions for Steve Porter on his staff report.

There were no questions for Katie Noyd on her staff report but she had additional information to share.

Katie Noyd reported that the Pride in the Park on April 6 had five people in attendance. Katie thanked Reggie St. John and the four others. They worked in East Valley Park throughout Lover's Lane and Siloam Mountain Park.

Katie has talked with Brent Bishop, Stormwater Coordinator for the Excelsior Springs Public Works Department, about a joint effort with the Pride in the Parks and the Stream Team Cleanup and maybe doing 4 such events instead of 2 Stream Team cleanups per year.

An estimated 225 participants took part in the Easter Egg Hunt on March 30, 2013. The hunt was held at Tiger Stadium due to the soggy sports/ball fields. It was a success, even though the weather was a challenge with rain, mist, cold, wind, etc. More filled eggs will be needed for next year.

Ideas for next year's hunt were discussed – pictures with the bunny, breakfast with the bunny, money in eggs, prizes in eggs, sponsors, rearranging ages, etc.

On Tuesday, April 30 at 10 a.m. Larry Rizzo, Natural History Biologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation, Wendy Sangster, Urban Forester with the Missouri Department of Conservation, and members of the Kansas City Wildlands will be meeting at the middle shelter in East Valley Park and then will pull garlic mustard plants from Isley Park Woods. Volunteers are welcome and needed.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Parks Committee met on April 5 and toured the parks. They met tonight at 6:00 p.m. to further discuss the tour.

- Eddie Raper Park – walked the trail area, talked about natural areas, picnic areas, disc golf, and open areas.
- Wildwood Park – cleanup will continue, add ground cover, develop the picnic area and have it available for use at Waterfest and the Fourth of July.
- Century Park – discussion held on the development of the west side of the park.
- Kibler Park – discussion on reconfiguring the amenities and adding off street ADA parking.
- Siloam Mountain Park – discussion of additional parking.
- Regent Park – possibly with 2014 Capital Improvements money develop a “teen-tween” park with age appropriate structures.
- Discussion about “musical parks” to include bells, drums, xylophones, etc.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Katie gave an update on the Jud Palmer Community Center. Steve Marriott, Director of Administrative Services, said that funds are available and can be spent on a new roof. Katie and Steve Porter are working on information for the bid process for a new roof.

The Community Center Committee met this afternoon. The Committee accepted the Excelsior Springs School District’s offer of the 13.5 acres of land along Wornall Road from Tiger Drive to Crown Hill Drive as the site for the new community center.

There will be a one-cent sales tax on the November ballot for the funding of the center. The cost of a new community center is still being determined.

The committee will decide what will be in the center and what group will run it. This will be decided before it goes to a vote in November.

The Highway 69 Walk Trail Extension continues to progress. The bridge has been set and concrete has been poured. There is one more concrete pour in the cul-de-sac. The retaining wall is being discussed. It was left out of the original plans and is a change order. If the price is over \$10,000, the City Council will have to approve the change order price. If the price is under \$10,000, it does not have to be approved by the City Council.

The question has been asked if the bridge will be painted, the bridge will not be painted.

Katie Noyd met with the Akin Gordon Cowger Engineer firm about ideas for the board walk area and bridge to Joy Street.

Discussion has been held on re-asphalting the Highway 69 asphalt trail and the asphalt trail in East Valley Park.

Parks and Recreation will be allowed to use the mulch that the Public Works Department generates from the Regional Yard Waste facility for the mulch walk trails in Eddie Raper Park, Siloam Mountain Park and along Kennedy Street.

Katie attended a TRIM (Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance) grant workshop. TRIM a competitive cost-share tree program administered by the Missouri Department of Conservation in cooperation with the Missouri Community Forest Council. The program provides reimbursement of \$1,000 to \$10,000 to assist government agencies, public schools and nonprofit groups with the management, improvement or conservation of trees on public lands. Projects eligible include tree inventory, removal or pruning of hazardous trees, tree planting and training of volunteers and city/county employees to best care for community forests. Grant award could be up to 60 percent of the money needed for a project.

Just an FYI, there is a resident on Kennedy Street that is concerned that if mulch is used on trails along Kennedy Street, it is going to be washed away each time it rains and it will clog up the storm drain and create flooding issues. This was discussed with Brent Bishop, Stormwater Coordinator, and he is not too concerned with this happening, but if it does, Public Works will clean it up.

Katie Noyd met with Clay County Commissioners Pam Mason and Luann Ridgeway; Clay County Parks and Recreation Director; and Scott Hendricks, Excelsior Springs Baseball/Softball Association about Rocky Hollow Park.

Clay County Parks and Recreation will be removing and replacing the ball fields fencing, pouring concrete for the dugout pads, mowing, putting ag lime on the infield, etc.

Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation will take bleachers out there, drag and line the fields, etc. Excelsior Springs Baseball and Softball Association will have first priority for practices.

Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department will sign a memo of understanding with Clay County Parks and Recreation about the responsibilities of each Department.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Lincoln Park was discussed. It is a neighborhood park in the northeast area of town. There is a city owned lot (311 Grand of .92 acres) that connects to it and the city wants to know if the Parks and Recreation Department would like it as an addition/extension of Lincoln Park. There is a foot path worn in the city lot so locals are using the land

already. A mulch trail would be installed on the footpath, connecting the various neighborhoods.

Trash cleanup needs to be done throughout this land but it seems there is no large dump site there.

Christy Marker made the motion to accept the lot addressed as 311 Grand from the City of Excelsior Springs, clean up the area and make a mulch trail through it. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the motion. Discussion was held. This would be a 2013 project and Lincoln Park would still be considered a “neighborhood park”. A show of hands vote was taken, motion passed, 8 – 0. Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Keith Bowen, Theresa Henson, Dennis Lollar, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Sharon Powell, Reggie St. John. Nays – 0

Katie informed the Board that the Parks and Recreation Department has been asked to run the youth activities/games at Waterfest this summer. Waterfest is scheduled for June 28, 29, and 30. Katie is looking at traditional games plus adding water type games – free water games, inflatables with water features, etc. Keith Bowen has a water cannon that could be used to create a water spray to cool off festival goers. Dennis Lollar talked about a catch and release fish tank. Parks and Recreation activities/games are scheduled to be in the parking lot on Broadway across from the Hall of Waters. Volunteers are welcome.

**OPEN DISCUSSION – none**

Reggie St. John made the motion to go into closed session pursuant to Section 610.021 RSMo. (2) Real Estate. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Keith Bowen, Theresa Henson, Dennis Lollar, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Sharon Powell, Reggie St. John. Nays – 0 There will be a short break before going into closed session.

At 8:20 p.m. Theresa Henson made the motion to come out of closed session. Christy Marker seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Keith Bowen, Theresa Henson, Dennis Lollar, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Sharon Powell, Reggie St. John. Nays – 0

At 8:21 p.m. Susan McAuliffe made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Reggie St. John seconded the motion, motion passed 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes – 8 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Keith Bowen, Theresa Henson, Dennis Lollar, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Sharon Powell, Reggie St. John. Nays – 0