

# EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**MAY 20, 2014**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department Board meeting held May 20, 2014 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-President Christy Marker.

Roll call was taken with seven board members present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Christy Marker, Vice President; Susan McAuliffe, Secretary-Treasurer; Sherri Branson-Hurt; Theresa Henson; Dennis Lollar; Jody Pasalich; Reggie St. John Zac Ganzer arrived at 7:08. There are now eight board members present.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Scott Smith

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON:** Sharon Powell

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

**VISITORS:** None

Christy Marker asked for consideration of the agenda. Reggie St. John made the motion to approve the agenda as written. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes – 7 Sherri Branson-Hurt, Theresa Henson, Dennis Lollar, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Jody Pasalich, Reggie St. John Nays – 0

The minutes of the April meeting were put on hold until Zac Ganzer arrives.

The April financials were discussed. Reggie St. John asked about employees and vacation time. Katie replied that summer was coming up and that fund would see some changes.

Katie informed the board that there were line items over budget but budget adjustments would be made closer to year end.

Zac Ganzer arrived at 7:08 p.m.

Katie has turned in a preliminary FY 14-15 budget. Projects will be reviewed. There is talk that the city's sewer system will be installed in the area of Eddie Raper Park. That will call for adjustments to be made. Katie hopes to have the Board approve the FY 14-15 budget in August.

Reggie St. John asked about the legal fees, he feels that they are high. Katie will look into it. Katie has had some employee questions and questions about the Special Use Permit that is being updated.

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the financials dated April 30, 2014 and prepared on May 6, 2014. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes: Sherri Branson-Hurt, Zac Ganzer, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Jody Pasalich, Theresa Henson, Dennis Lollar, Reggie St. John Nays – 0

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2014 Parks and Recreation Board meeting as written. Jody Pasalich seconded the motion, motion passed, 5 – 0 – 3. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes: Sherri Branson-Hurt, Zac Ganzer, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Jody Pasalich Nays – 0 Abstaining – 3 Theresa Henson and Dennis Lollar were not in attendance at the April 15, 2014 meeting and Reggie St. John was the Board's liaison was a member of the City Council.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Steve Porter informed the Board that except for touch ups, Get Fit Park is open and ready for use. Tomorrow, work on the Joy Street boardwalk project begins.

Crown vetch seed was sown at Lincoln Park and at Kent and Outlook Park.

More mulch is needed to extend the walk trail at Eddie Raper Park. Steve Porter is working with three companies that are donating their mulch (chipped up trees) to the Department. Zac Ganzer asked about the mulch that Public Works makes. Steve said that Chad is aware that the Department would like to have that mulch but Steve Porter feels that it is a coarser cut than what the other companies do and he prefers the other cut.

Graffiti on the turnaround at Siloam Mt. Park will be removed.

Katie announced that there are lots of programs going on this summer – Art in the Park, Storytime in the Park, Farmer's Market activities, Pride in the Park, tennis lessons, youth softball, youth baseball, art classes, adult coed softball, women's volleyball, etc.

“Out is In” is the logo for the National Recreation and Parks Month of July. Katie has

activities planned for every day to get people out and enjoy our parks.

The Senior Center is doing very well. A copy of their newsletter was included in the Board packets. May was Older Americans' Month. The Center hosted speakers from the Fire Department, etc.

Katie presented the Parks and Recreation Department's Annual Report to the City Council last night, May 19, 2014. Katie will also include the Senior information.

Christy Marker asked about the youth ball participant numbers, looked like they were down from last year.

Katie replied that there are a lot of opportunities and avenues for sports including youth baseball and softball players in Excelsior Springs. There are lots of activities for youth in town including Art in the Park, Budding Artist, tennis lessons, etc. Special event numbers are higher than normal.

The Department is partnering with DEP and Molly Roberts' Studio to offer a Kid's Art Showcase on July 11 and July 12.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Parks Committee met at 4:30 today to take a field trip to most of our parks. The parks are looking good but there are suggested improvements.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Katie Noyd shared pictures of the Get Fit Park and Joy Street boardwalk. Riprap will be added, benches, trash cans, etc. A grand opening for Get Fit Park will be held when the Joy Street Boardwalk is finished.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Katie would like for the Board to appoint Sheila Gatlin to the Parks and Recreation Foundation.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to approve the appointment of Sheila Gatlin to the Parks and Recreation Foundation. Theresa Henson seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0 – 1. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes: Zac Ganzer, Christy Marker,

Susan McAuliffe, Jody Pasalich, Theresa Henson, Dennis Lollar, Reggie St. John Nays – 0 Abstaining – 1 Sherri Branson-Hurt, sister to Sheila Gatlin.

Reggie St. John has been appointed to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Zac Ganzer's term expires in May 2014.

The Parks and Recreation Board and the Parks and Recreation Foundation both need one member.

Zac Ganzer asked about the committee for the Community Center. Katie replied that one member of the committee will come from the Parks and Recreation Board, two that the School District will appoint, the Mayor will serve and three citizens appointed by the mayor. The committee will not be appointed for quite some time.

Katie applied for and received a grant for \$4747.00 from the Department of Natural Resources for safety surfaces from recycled materials. She has ordered 78 mats that will go under the swing area of the swingsets and under the end of the slides from a Missouri recycling company in all of the parks except for Get Fit Park.

Waterfest is June 27 and 28. The Parks and Recreation Foundation will have inflatables. More activities and games would like to be offered. but more volunteers will be needed. Youth and school groups have been contacted to volunteer. It is a good way for youth to get their community service hours for high school.

Katie would like to borrow canopies if someone has some extra ones. The foundation will be setting up at the circle drive this year.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Zac Ganzer asked if the Department was aware that the light shield that protects the light shining on the flag at the old fire station has been tilted up and needs to be repositioned.

The painting of the play structure poles in Kibler Park continues.

Theresa Henson suggested that larger grass areas in the parks could be planted with native grasses and flora so that it would cut down on mowing.

Sherri Branson-Hurt asked what time the Waterfest activities will start. Katie replied 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 27.

Katie thanked Zac Ganzer for serving on the Parks and Recreation Board and congratulated him on being hired as the head coach for the girls and boys soccer teams at the high school.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the motion, motion passed. A show of hands vote was taken. Ayes: Sherri Branson-Hurt Zac Ganzer, Christy Marker, Susan McAuliffe, Jody Pasalich, Theresa Henson, Dennis Lollar, Reggie St. John Nays – 0