

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 20, 2011

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department Board meeting held December 20, 2011 was called to order by President Sharon Powell.

Roll call was taken.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sharon Powell, President; Theresa Henson, Vice President; Susan McAuliffe, Secretary; Joyce Green, Treasurer; Keith Bowen; Sherri Branson-Hurt; Jeff Duncan; Christy Marker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Zac Ganzer

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON: Chad Taylor, City Council Liaison arrived at 7:04 p.m.

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.

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to accept the minutes of the November 15, 2011 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting as written. Joyce Green seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. Ayes: Sharon Powell, Theresa Henson, Susan McAuliffe, Joyce Green, Keith Bowen, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Jeff Duncan, Christy Marker

Katie Noyd discussed the financial report. 2011 year-end balance was \$542,144. November balance is \$876,410. Katie asked Steve Marriott, Director of Administrative Services, about the large increase. Steve replied, “City records are kept on the modified accrual basis of accounting, which means that tax revenues are recognized when billed and not when paid. Cash basis would recognize the revenues when paid.” The statement of Available Net Assets – budget and Summary Budget Report were discussed. There were no questions for Katie about the financials.

Chad Taylor arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Theresa Henson made the motion to approve the November 2011 Financial Report as received. Susan McAuliffe seconded the motion, motion passed, 8 – 0. Ayes: Sharon Powell, Theresa Henson, Susan McAuliffe, Joyce Green, Keith Bowen, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Jeff Duncan, Christy Marker

STAFF REPORTS

Steve Porter and crew has been working on the Highway 69 asphalt walk trail. The north area of the trail has had underbrush cleared, brush cleaned-up and a few small trees removed. The brush cleanup was from the Broadbents Houts & Co, PC office area to the Methodist Church.

On the Highway 69 asphalt walk trail south of Tracy, there is an area where the runoff rain water crosses the asphalt and makes it slippery. Steve Porter feels that it has been corrected by digging a drainage ditch alongside of the trail and installing a grate across the asphalt trail so that the water can run across the grate allowing the water to flow through the grate and not across the trail. Steve extended a thank you to Chad Birdsong, Director of Public Works, for the use of the mini-excavator.

Joyce Green mentioned that she has had positive responses about the drainage ditch and grate.

A new wave slide was installed at Kibler Park to replace the tunnel slide. Someone burned a hole in the tunnel slide.

The bridge at the dam of Powell Lake at Century Park has been installed. The bridge was sandblasted, painted, rails added, and was placed at the spillway of the lake. Rock was spread on the raw dirt to cut down on erosion. At some point, more dirt is going to be added to the dam to make it level.

Steve and his crew are planning to put metal on the ceiling of the comfort station at Raper Park to support the concrete that is beginning to flake off. Keith Bowen questioned if it was a dangerous ceiling that the Department was trying to cover up. Steve replied that it wasn't a dangerous ceiling where it was going to cave in on you but the older concrete is starting to show it's age. Chad Taylor, City Council Liaison, mentioned that the City may start working on changing this area to sewer system.

The new obstacles for the Skate Park arrived yesterday. The new configuration was finished today. The Skate Park was reopened today. Plans are to repaint all of the old obstacles so that all of the obstacles will look clean and new.

It was suggested that painting a mural or picture on the new blank canvas (skate park pieces) might cut down on vandalism or maybe at least make someone think about it.

The snow removal equipment is ready to go. All we need is snow.

Joyce Green thanked Steve and his crew for cleaning and clearing the underbrush throughout East Valley Park and the Linear Park Walk Trail entrance.

Katie mentioned that she, Mayor Ambrose Buckman, and City Manager Dave Haugland looked at Superior Well and the surrounding area. Parks and Rec will remove three trees

and clean up around the well. Discussion is ongoing about refurbishment, steps to the park, etc.

Katie and Steve are putting numbers together on three to four options for a maintenance storage facility. They will bring these back to the Board.

The results from the youth fall sports surveys are in your packets. Overall survey results were very encouraging. Some people complained that there were not assistant coaches but then they who complained did not volunteer either.

Katie felt that the youth fall sports went pretty good.

The Department in conjunction with Coach Lang and his Varsity basketball players conducted a youth basketball clinic on Saturday, December 17, 2011. There were 47 youth basketball players in attendance.

Women's volleyball is being played at the Middle School and Lewis Gym and should finish in January. Another league will be offered after that.

Men's basketball deadline is December 30.

The Department is having an "open gym" for youth to come and shoot baskets. This is not a team practice but for the players to come and work on their shots. There have been requests for a teen basketball league.

The exercise classes are going good.

Parks and Rec is offering a "Shape Up Excelsior Springs Weight Loss Challenge". Registration deadline is January 3, 2012 and competition is January 5 – March 1. More information can be found on-line at esparks.org.

Young Picasso classes are going well.

Katie is working on a calendar/brochure that will list all the Parks and Recreation Department events and activities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – none

OLD BUSINESS

Katie Noyd gave an update on the Lane of Lights. Attendance has been up this year. There was an additional one third of a mile of added to the Lane this year. A suggestion was that a sign be displayed for the charity/organization of the night.

The proposed start time for the Highway 69 Walk Trail Extension is March. Gerri Doyle with MoDot has been working with Chad Birdsong and is finalizing paper work.

Chad has said that with good weather, etc., the trail extension should be completed in three months.

Katie Noyd and Jesse Hall are updating the School/Parks and Rec Agreement. They are working to erase the gray areas.

Discussion on the School/Parks and Rec Agreement includes: Parks and Rec paying a fee to use the facilities and the School District would mow and maintain the facilities. The Department would get the fields ready for our sports. There would be flexibility on the hours that the Parks and Recreation Department needs and uses. Katie Noyd figures that the Department needs 3500 hours for the Parks and Recreation activities, clinics, etc. Talk also included that Parks and Rec would make reservations for other organizations to use school facilities.

Sherri Branson-Hurt is concerned for the hours of usage for the Parks and Rec Department when we add new programs and have more participants. Katie explained that it would be school district would be first on the reservation list, Parks and Rec second and then it would be for others. The school district is aware that the Department is developing new activities.

Keith Bowen asked about the possibility that the school district would only maintain and have things looking nice for their activities and then not groomed, manicured and ready for the Department's use. Katie Noyd replied that there would be checks and balances in case of that scenario.

Katie would like to meet with the Parks and Recreation Board the first or second week in January to vote on the Parks and Recreation Department's Policy Manual, the school agreement and the bids for the calendar/brochures.

Consensus was that a short meeting the second week in January would be better than the first week.

NEW BUSINESS – none

OPEN

Katie Noyd thanked the Board for supporting the Parks and Recreation Department, attending meetings, being involved, and for supporting her. She is very appreciative of all the hard work that they do.

Susan McAuliffe made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Christy Marker seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0. Ayes: Sharon Powell, Theresa Henson, Susan McAuliffe, Joyce Green, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Jeff Duncan, Christy Marker Keith Bowen was out of the room for the vote. Meeting adjourned.