



City of Lawrence Board of Parks and Recreation - Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 15, 2020 – 3:30 pm
Lawrence Government Center
Public Assembly Room

Members present: Jeff Vest, Tom Burns, Helen Taylor and Wendy Muston

Staff: Joe Murphy, Eric Martin and Dina Gee

Guest: Judy Byron

Meeting was called to order by Jeff Vest at 3:32 pm.

Minutes:

Minutes of the May 13, 2020 meeting were distributed for review and clarification. Jeff Vest entertained a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Motion was made by Tom Burns to accept the minutes, seconded by Helen Taylor. Motion carried 4-0.

Board Comment:

Jeff welcomed our new member, Wendy Muston to the Park's Board.

FC Pride held their dedication of the new turf field at Veterans Memorial Park today. They will play their Premier games on that field.

Jeff praised the City and schools for the peaceful protest that began at Burn's Park concluded at 4:00pm on June 5, 2020.

We need a policy with guidelines to send to youth groups because they were playing games at Lee Road Park the past couple of weeks with no social distancing and are charging an admittance fee.

Director Comments:

The Harmon Way paving project will start in the beginning of July.

Cultural Campus update.....the inside of the Theater is completed, but they are waiting on plan approval for exterior to start. The exterior should be completed by mid-summer of 2021.

Adult Soccer and FC Pride will begin this week. Football can start practice with zero contact on July 11, 2020. Our senior activities will be the last to come back.

We will begin renting the facilities July 4, 2020. We will clean bathrooms once a day and we will only reserve one event per weekend unless it has already been booked. As of right now, we have a revenue loss of \$40-\$60,000. We have put a July 1, 2020 deadline on canceling reservations for deposit refunds.

There will be a Front Line Hero Appreciation celebration on September 5th with fireworks.

The Master Plan includes a questionnaire that is on the City's website for people to fill out.

Explorer Park looks good since those trees have been cut. We have hired a contractor to assemble the new playground there.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comments:

Judy Byron gave the Board an update on the Cultural Campus. Phase 1 is completed and they are in progress of Phase 2. The concrete is being poured for the sidewalks between the buildings. All of Phase 2 should be completed by October of 2020. Judy stated that Phase 5 consists of carved limestone benches, virtual reality arts, artwork and musical swings. One concern is the budget. They are over budget of \$190,000. They may have to wait for the colored concrete, fencing and outside café seating until a later date. Wendy had a concern that some people won't feel welcome. Jeff commented that the cultural Campus is about celebrating the history of veterans of all colors. Judy also stated that some art pieces will be of African American veterans and some of the art sculptures will be done by African Americans as well.

Adjournment:

Jeff Vest adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

Secretary Signature: _____ Date: _____