



# CITY OF LAWRENCE **PARKS AND RECREATION**

City of Lawrence Board of Parks and Recreation - Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, June 9, 2021 – 5:30 pm  
Lawrence Government Center  
Public Assembly Room

**Members present:** Jeff Vest, Tom Burns, Helen Taylor and Karen Taylor

**Staff:** Eric Martin and Dina Gee

**Guest:** Trace Yates, Judy Byron and Jasmyne McKinney

Meeting was called to order by Jeff Vest at 5:32 pm.

**Minutes:**

Minutes of the May 12, 2021 meeting and the Special meeting from June 2, 2021 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 informed the Board there was burn outs and hot rodding in the Community Park over the weekend.

Jeff reminded the Board members about the Special meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. for the pickle ball bid package opening.

Jeff informed the Board that Kayla Smith will be the Grand Marshall in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

Jeff informed the Board that Jason Fenwick was able to give him some numbers about the Park tax that the City of Lawrence residents pay to the City of Indianapolis. \$170,000 goes to debt services and \$700,000 goes to the City Park General Fund.

**Director Comments:**

The community and the Council would like to put in butterfly landing strips in some of the parks. Eric suggested that Community Park and the 46<sup>th</sup> and Richardt Park would be a good candidate.

Explore Park Community Day is Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. The Board members are invited to attend. They will be cleaning out fence rows and sprucing the Park up. They will also have a kick ball game.

We have secured a Fireworks Vendor for July 4<sup>th</sup>. All festivities will be held on July 4<sup>th</sup>. We will have the parade, fish fry, car show, carnival and live music followed by the fireworks.

Eric sent out 5 bid packages for the pickle ball courts. We will need to do some core sampling on the proposed site at Lee Road Park. The packages are due by June 30, 2021.

The drawings for Civic Plaza is about 90% done. We expect to change the deed over in the next 30 days. The projected start date would be this fall and completed in the spring.

**Old Business:**

**a. Cultural Campus Update:**

Judy Byron stated that the windows for the Visual Arts Studio are being installed and should be completed by Friday afternoon. The grand opening will be all weekend long. Starting Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. with Mayor Steve Collier giving a proclamation at 6 pm. Saturday hours at 4 pm. to 9 pm. Sunday will be from 4 pm. to 7 pm. There will be vendors and live music.

**New Business:**

**a. Brownstone Academy – Lee Road Park:**

Ms. McKinney told the Board a little about herself and how she started the Brownstone Academy to tutor kids that need help. Some parents are not able to pay the fees so she is doing a fundraiser to help those parents with the tutor fees. The contract includes the use of the shelter, restrooms, green space and parking lot at Lee Road Park July 17, 2021, with a rain date of July 24, 2021. The fee would be sweat equity. In the contract there is a clause that if Ms. McKinney does not clean up the park afterwards, she will be charged \$500. She has supplied Eric with a copy of her insurance. Jeff entertained a motion to enter into a contract with Brownstone Academy for the use of Lee Road Park. Karen Taylor made a motion to accept, seconded by Helen Taylor. Motion carried 4-0.

**Public Comment:**

Trace Yates with the Lawrence Parks Foundation addressed the Board. He congratulated them on the Pickle ball project. He stated the Explorer Park clean-up day is Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. The foundation will be having another fundraiser by selling park benches and trees. Donors will have an opportunity to have the benches engraved with what they would like on them by Anchor Bolt Express. He would also like to have a dedication to whomever purchases a tree with a plaque or something hanging in the Park's office. He asked if the City would help out with the promotion of the Lawrence Parks Foundation. Lastly, he announced that the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Stars and Stripes has been canceled.

**Adjournment:**

Jeff adjourned the meeting at 6:34.

Secretary Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_