



CITY OF LAWRENCE **PARKS AND RECREATION**

City of Lawrence Board of Parks and Recreation - Regular Meeting
Wednesday, July 14, 2021 – 5:30 pm
Lawrence Government Center
Public Assembly Room

Members present: Jeff Vest, Tom Burns, Amy Norman and Karen Taylor

Staff: Joe Murphy, Eric Martin and Dina Gee

Guest: Trace Yates, Amber Denney, Liz Masur, Maria Rusomaroff and Allison Cole

Meeting was called to order by Jeff Vest at 5:30 pm.

Minutes:

Minutes of the June 9, 2021 meeting and the Special meeting from June 30, 2021 were distributed for review and clarification. Jeff Vest entertained a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Motion was made by Amy Norman to accept the minutes, seconded by Karen Taylor. Motion carried 4-0.

Board Comment:

Jeff gave a thanks to RJ and his guy as well as the other departments for a great 4th of July.

The weeds under the bleachers and the pile of dirt need some attention at Lee Road Park as well as the fencing on the left field.

Soccer fencing needs repaired.

Football signs need to be fixed.

Fall Creek baseball and softball had over 300 kids in the spring league.

Tom asked Eric if he would reach out to Judy Byron and ask about a mural being painted at the Skate Park.

Director Comments:

The 4th of July was a success. The carnival payment to the City was a little over \$15,000. The carnival is asking to come back next year for a longer stay.

The Brownstone Academy event is this Saturday.

Budgets are due to July 23. Final version is due August 25 and sent to Council on September 7th.

Civic Plaza was transferred over to the City of Lawrence from the Reuse authority July 13, 2021. Winterfest is being moved to Lee Road Park this year.

Old Business:

a. Lawrence Community Park Foundation:

Trace informed the Board a change in leadership. Amber Denney is the new President. Amber introduced herself and her goals for the Foundation. She wants to highlight and showcase what the Parks have to offer. The foundation is also helping with the fundraising, marketing and communication for the Butterfly Garden project.

b. Arts for Lawrence Update: Judy Byron could not attend the meeting.

New Business:

a. 2021 LTFL Usage Agreement:

The agreement would commence July 14, 2021 through November 20, 2021. The fees would consist of \$75 per in house game and \$100 per game for All Star / Travel games. The Board would allow LTFL to charge admission to the All Star/Travel games. Jeff asked Eric what the cost is for the utilities and mowing for the league. Jeff stated that the fees from 2020 would be waived per the pandemic. Jeff entertained a motion to enter into an agreement with LTFL for the use of Burns Park from July 14, 2021 through November 20, 2021. Karen Taylor made a motion to accept, seconded by Amy Norman. Motion carried 4-0.

b. Review and Acceptance of Lee Road Park Pickle Ball Court Construction Contract:

Eric and Joe Murphy stated that the City had 2 bids come in from Meyers Construction and Brant Construction for the construction of the pickle ball courts at Lee Road Park. Meyers bid was \$445,000 and Brant's bid was around \$283,800. Eric recommended that the Board choose Brant Construction over Meyers to construct the 8 pickle ball courts due to they were the lowest responsive bid. Construction will only take 90 days. They will need to add their insurance policy. The cost of the courts will be fully funded from the Cumm Cap. Legal will draw up contract and bring back to the Board for approval. Jeff entertained a motion for the acceptance of Brants Construction bid and Legal to proceed with contract. Amy Norman made a motion to accept, seconded by Karen Taylor. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comment:

Maria Rusomaroff, Liz Masur and Allison Cole addressed the Board about the Butterfly Garden project for the City of Lawrence. They would like to use 15 acres throughout Lee Road Park, Veterans Park, Richardt Park and Jenn Park. The City would prep the area of the sites. It would be cost effective for the Parks as not having to mow those sites but only 2 times a year. The Mayor's administration agreed to pilot the organization and the Park's Foundation would be their host.

Adjournment: Jeff adjourned the meeting at 6:42.

Secretary Signature: _____ Date: _____