



CITY OF LAWRENCE **PARKS AND RECREATION**

City of Lawrence Board of Parks and Recreation - Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 11, 2021 – 5:30 pm
Lawrence Government Center
Public Assembly Room

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

Staff: Joe Murphy, Eric Martin and Dina Gee

Guest: Maria Rusomaroff and Judy Byron

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

Minutes:

Minutes of the July 14, 2021 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 5-0.

Board Comment:

Jeff informed the Board that there will be an unveiling of General Brooks monument in October.

There will most likely be a special meeting called concerning the LTFL contract.

Eric has talked to Mark about the fencing at soccer.

There are some picnic tables at Lee Road Park that have some wood missing. Eric said if they can't fix them, they will throw them away.

Jeff would like to see the Fall Creek Softball and Baseball sign moved from Lee Road Park to Community Park.

Director Comments:

Eric met with the Controller about the 2022 budget Tuesday. The Park's budget has increased by \$200,000 from 2021. It contains a 5% increase in salaries and decrease in reduction of supplies. They have allocated debt service for a possible batting cage at Community Park and a jump start on the Community Park and Lee Road Park playground.

The batting cage would be a replica of the one at Lee Road Park. It will be located on the old basketball courts. The City will keep the one at Lee Road Park until the new one is built. After the new one is built, the City will utilize the one at Lee Road Park to store City equipment in.

Community Safety day is August 14, 2021 at Station 40 from 10am to 2pm.

We have had a rash of vandalisms in the Parks. Soccer is paying a security officer to monitor the concession stands.

Eric gave a shout out to the Park's guys and other departments for the landscaping at the Government Center and the cleaning up at Lee Road Park for the Pickleball Courts.

Old Business:

a. Lawrence Community Park Foundation Update:

No one present.

b. Butterfly Garden Update:

Maria stated that she has done some presentations at events and is receiving quotes from 3 different vendors. She is also sending a resolution to the Council for \$15,000 in capital outlay. Jeff would like to see that money be put into the Park's Non-Reverting fund as our guys will be doing the prep work to get the land ready. It will be around 5 ½ to 7 acres used in 4 different parks throughout Lawrence.

New Business:

a. Contract with Charles C Brandt Construction CO:

No contract was provided to the Board due to some wording correction. The timeline is core sampling would be done first and ribbon cutting would take place the last of October or first of November.

b. Cathedral H.S. Soccer Agreement:

They are waiting on Cathedral to sign. In the agreement, Cathedral will need to pay a fee to play this year. Tom asked if Cathedral would be allowed to charge entrance fees. Jeff said that would be up to the Board to allow that.

Public Comment:

Judy Byron from Arts for Lawrence updated the Board on the progress of the Cultural Campus. The musical swings have been up and running for 8 weeks and there have been over 8000 people use them. They are also talking to the General Contractor with a few issues as the basement flooding, roofing and concrete issues. The power issues have been resolved. They have 4 companies bidding on building the amphitheater. AV items such as sound system, screen and curtains are coming into the Sterrett Center along with Cori Korn as she will be working with Judy Byron for public programming events in the Sterrett Center. As far as the revamping of the cemetery, the Trustees do not want anyone on property.

Adjournment: Jeff adjourned the meeting at 6:15.

Secretary Signature: _____ Date: _____