



City of Lawrence Board of Parks and Recreation - Regular Meeting
Wednesday, July 8, 2020 – 5:30 pm
Lawrence Government Center
Public Assembly Room

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

Staff: Tyler Douthit, Eric Martin and Dina Gee

Guest: Judy Byron

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

Minutes:

Minutes of the July 8, 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 Karen Taylor. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Comment:

The milling of Harmon Way is in progress. They had to rebuild the road due to no sub-base, but it is scheduled to be done and reopened by the end of the month. Tom Burns stated how bad the Community Park parking lot looked.

Jeff inquired about youth sports and if they had their COVID plans on file. Eric replied all of the leagues do except Cathedral. The Board is inquiring if the 250 limit of people is for the whole park or for each sports group since it is a multi-use complex. Each league will have to file with Marion County Health Department if they expect over 250 people. Eric will have to contact Marion County Board of Health to clarify. The building rentals are only 25% capacity at this time.

Jeff asked if we do get fined, who is responsible for that fine? For our building rentals, we give them a copy of the Marion County Public Health Order 22-2020 and have them sign a paper informing them of how many guests are allowed in the building at one time and also about the face coverings.

Director Comments:

Shawn Denney and the Foundation had a food give away at the Community Park last month. They handed out close to 1000 boxes of food. They have 6 more food give away planned for this year.

The Parks have lost about \$70 - \$80 thousand dollars in revenue due to no rentals with the COVID.

The senior programs can't start until we advance to Stage 5 and not sure about then with us being in Marion County.

The trails at Lee Road Park will begin after the Harmon Way paving is done.

FC Pride tournament is scheduled for the end of September.

Old Business: None

New Business:

A. Purple Line Quit Claim Deed

The Purple Line is being built from a transit grant from the Federal Government. They are in need of about 8 feet of land on the northwest corner of Post and Otis. Board unanimously approved it.

B. Special Use Agreement – Ultimate Tournaments – August 14-16

Ultimate Tournaments applied for additional tournaments but did not have a COVID plan in place so they are moving their tournaments to Cicero. The Board asked to see documented receipts of the \$7500 that they owe.

C. Resolution #1, 2020 – Rental Rates of Various Facilities and Fields

Eric informed the Board that we would like to change the rates for our rental facilities. We would like to increase and make the rates the same for all residents but still have the discounts for city employees and active military. We have not had a rate increase in almost 6 years. The Sterrett Center rate would increase to \$850 and they would have to use one of the 3 caters that we would have for them to choose from. We will add shelters for rent at Lee Road Park and Veterans Park. We will have a flat rate for Bark Park members. We will also add field and diamond rentals to our rates. Jeff inquired about Cathedral as to what fields they are using and fees they are paying. Eric replied that the leagues starts Saturday and they play on fields 4 and 5. He thinks their contract is up this year but they do not pay any fees but are lining their own fields and using their own goals. Jeff and the Board would like to see the agreement and talk to them about future agreements. Judy Byron stated that the Sterrett Center could be rented with the use of the Culture Campus for 5 times the amount. She would like to see the Sterrett Center rent out for at least \$1,200. Jeff said he would like to table the resolution but after some more discussion, Jeff entertained a motion to change the rate of the Sterrett Center rental to \$850. Motion was made by Tom Burns to accept the rate change at the Sterrett Center, seconded by Helen Taylor. Motion carried 5-0. He would like the Board to review all the changes at the September 2020 Board meeting.

D. Review and Accept Quote from Kwinkrink for Synthetic Ice Rink

Tyler explained to the Board the rink was made of synthetic. It comes with logo panels, fencing and 200 pairs of skates. The rink would be 60' x 80' and it would be set up at the Civic Plaza and run from Thanksgiving to the end of February. The cost would be \$94,000 and they could charge \$10 per person. After 5 years it would be paid off and will start seeing returns on it. The funds would come out of the Park's General fund and would be staffed and maintained from employees, interns and volunteers. After some discussion, Jeff entertained a motion to accept the quote from Kwinkrink for the Synthetic Ice Rink. Motion was made by Wendy Muston to accept the quote, seconded by Karen Taylor. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comments:

Judy Byron gave the Board an update on the Cultural Campus. The communication building was moved onto the campus last week. It will be used for a visual arts center. The project is ahead of schedule. They are on Phase 2, 3, 4 and 5. Phase 2 is the addition to the Theater and it is in progress. The last stage is 5 and that will be artwork that goes into the plaza. Judy is looking into security cameras for the campus. The projected opening day is May 21, 2021.

Adjournment:

Jeff Vest adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Secretary Signature: _____ Date: _____