

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
4:00 p.m., November 13, 2024
City Hall – Council Chambers

Minutes

Attendance—Vice Chairman Tyler Agniel, Matt Geary, David Gleason, Randy Knight, Diane Mares, Caety Meyer, Matthew Moeder, Jay Moorman, Staff: Meghan Buum, James Carney

Public Participation – Mike Sherry and Gabe Sherry had several requests for the basketball court in front of city hall, including screening/fencing to prevent balls from rolling into the roadway, and lighting. They thanked Public Works for the replacement of the nets on the hoops. James Carney reported that Public Works would be reviewing the end of the year budget to see if the fencing could be accomplished this year, and Meghan Buum reported that the lighting is already funded through the approved capital improvement plans.

Reports

1. Chairperson’s Report –Vice Chairman Tyler Agniel opened the meeting and shared the following updates:
 - Budget was approved by council to include the parks CIP.

2. Recreation Report – Meghan Buum reported on the following items:
 - The Community Center Campus study concluded with a final public meeting in October. After the conclusion of the study, the Prairie Village City Council considered public feedback and overall study outcomes. During a City Council meeting October 21, 2024, the Council voted to cease pursuit of the project. As a result of this action, the YMCA and the Library will independently explore next steps for their respective facilities.
 - The City Committee application process will take place in November and December, with review by the Council Chairs/recommendations to the Mayor in January, and appointment in February/March. Half the committee is up for reappointment each year. She reminded committee members that there is an attendance requirement of 75% of the meetings. If you no longer wish to participate on the committee, please let staff and the Council Chairs know.
 - Ms. Buum sought feedback from the committee on the 4 p.m. meeting time.
 - Standard agreements with the county and other cities, the annual fee schedule, and a comprehensive policy review will be presented in January.

3. Public Works Report—James Carney provided the following update:
 - Wassmer Park: In the planning phase to repair brick section near church monument and a curb around the zip-line playground
 - McCrum Park: Repairs made to fence on north and south side of tennis court

- Windsor Park: Electronic timers & gates installed on courts; courts changed back to two pickleball & one tennis
- Taliaferro Park: Nature play area updated; playground construction is completed; new picnic tables due in week of Nov 18
- Harmon Park: Re-graded and installed sod on hillside between upper & lower tennis courts; playground repairs made and open for use except for zipline and one other feature; changing beds on terrace walls on exterior of pool complex
- Franklin Park: Stream closing for the season next week; restroom lights updated; new epoxy floor installed in restrooms; interior painting this winter
- All parks: Playground mulch refresh in-progress; aerating & overseeding in-progress; leaf collection in-progress; drinking fountain winterization in-progress

Ms. Buum provided the following update on behalf of Melissa Prenger:

- Harmon - Some residents have asked for trash cans on the "back side" of the playground and those are being ordered/installed by Maintenance.
- Bennett - The CIP project for this park will be constructed next year. New spring toys and a new inclusive spinner will be installed along with a new (same size) shelter.
- Windsor Park Trail - Design starts in 2025 for construction in 2026, the City has received federal funding for this project through MARC.
- Windsor Park - Shelter pad to be replaced this fall due to heaving of the existing pad
- Signs - files have been sent to City Administrative staff for formatting to include new rules / reservation information.

Consent Agenda

1. Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2024 – Jay Moorman moved to approve the minutes, Randy Knight seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

1. 2024 Recreation Report—Meghan Buum reviewed the 2024 Summer Recreation Report, highlighting the following items:
 - It was another great summer, with very few weather-related closures, and our bather load was the highest on record.
 - After seeing a dip in memberships in 2023 following a price increase, we had a nice bounce back in 2024 with our most memberships sold ever.
 - The SuperPass program changed in 2024 with the removal of two cities from the program, we did see a drop in visits and revenue from that program. Feedback from residents was primarily related to the loss of Leawood, who voluntarily chose not to participate in the program.
 - Our swim and dive programs continue to grow, and the inaugural year of the internal swim lessons program was very successful.
 - Skateboarding 101 continues to reach maximums, however, the Junior Tennis League continues to struggle.

Ms. Buum provided a 2025 look ahead:

- Staffing levels struggled in August, and we will be reviewing the bonus structure to incentivize guards to keep more hours.
- Staff is working now to get the pool management team set for 2025
- Daniel Jackson, our pool manager who oversees lifeguard certifications, attended the American Red Cross's lifeguard instructor training academy in October. This was the final piece of training needed to bring our certification program entirely in-house.
- Dan Mapes, our skateboarding 101 instructor, would like to hold a summer skateboarding event with helmet giveaways, food trucks, and demonstrations. More information to come on that at a future meeting.
- A meeting is scheduled with JCPRD to discuss the growth of youth tennis lessons at Harmon Park for 2025.

2. Foundation budget consideration - \$40,664 account balance – Tabled

Information Items

Meeting Schedule

- January 8, 2025

Adjournment—4:40 p.m.