

PARKS, FORESTRY, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Monday, December 20, 2021 Minutes

The regular meeting of the Platteville Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Committee of the City of Platteville was called to order by Jason Artz at 7:00 p.m. in the North Conference Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jason Artz, Don Francis, Victoria Hundhausen, Erin Ihm, Suraya Strobl (7:04), Cindy Tang (Zoom), Brian Whisenant

Others in Attendance: Adam Ruechel and Howard Crofoot

CITIZEN COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Cindy Tang to approve the minutes from November 15, 2021, seconded by Brian Whisenant. Motion carried.

STAFF UPDATE:

- a. **Broske Center Fees** – Howard Crofoot said that the recommended 2022 Broske Center fees were passed by the Common Council on December 14, 2021. There was a concern about alcohol fees. Howard Crofoot stated that the current fees include a regular damage deposit of \$200 and an alcohol damage deposit of \$50 for a total of \$250. He explained that the \$50 deposit is the same as other shelter rentals with alcohol. The Committee explained that they were asking about a separate fee. Adam Ruechel said that staff was investigating the legality of charging fees above the current damage deposit.

One Hall

Current Charge - \$100, plus \$50 for the kitchen
0-50 people - \$150
51-100 people - \$200
101-150 people - \$250

Both Halls

Current Charge - \$100, plus \$50 for the kitchen
0-100 people - \$300
101-200 people - \$400
201-300 people - \$500

- b. **Recreation Programs** – Adam Ruechel noted that programs are continuing as normal, including basketball, volleyball and pickleball. He said that the Introduction to Parks class was maxed out at 45 participants.
- c. **Inclusive Playground** – Howard Crofoot explained that there were some documents that required a Public Hearing prior to submitting the grant request. The Common Council held those Public Hearings on December 14 and all passed. Staff is asking if draft Minutes are acceptable or if approved Minutes are required. If the latter, then the grant submission will be in mid-January. Staff explained the status of the roughly \$2.2 million submission that includes the playground, replacing water and sewer lines to the Stone Shelter, installing sidewalk connections across Smith Park from Fifth Ave to Sylvia St, and creating handicapped parking stalls along Fifth Avenue. Additional items include a sidewalk/trail connection along Second St and additional parking on the west side of the Broske Center. If some of these additional items cannot be funded by the grant, they can be withdrawn and separately funded. One item the grant will not fund is upgrading the Stone Shelter restrooms to be handicap accessible. This will need to have other funds provided.
- d. **Pickleball Courts** - Staff spoke about the meetings with City, Delta 3, the contractor and subcontractors for paving and sealing. The paving subcontractor acknowledges some responsibility and will pay a fair share towards the corrective action. Work will take place in spring and if corrections to fencing or other items are also needed, this will be included. The City paid over \$92,000 being held on this contract with \$35,000 still held to ensure completion of the work in spring. Staff is confident that this is fair but is more than the amount needed to correct the problem.

NEW BUSINESS

- e. **Recreation Department Transition** – Adam Ruechel talked about the resignation of Luke Peters and Debi Sigwarth. He spoke about the transition period, the actions by the Common Council to fund the Director position and a Recreation Coordinator position to handle programs and the Broske Center. The Common Council is adding a position of Office

Assistant to handle the front desk and other tasks for multiple departments. Temporarily, Cindy Martens will be assisting until new employees are hired. Any questions can initially go to her and she will pass to other staff as needed.

NEXT MEETING – Monday, January 17, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Victoria Hundhausen said that she had a conflict and could not attend.

Motion to adjourn by Brian Whisenant, seconded by Erin Ihm. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Minutes by Howard Crofoot