

PARKS, FORESTRY, & RECREATION COMMITTEE Minutes

Date 10-17-22_

The regular meeting of the Platteville Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Committee of the City of Platteville was called to order by Jason Artz at 7:05 p.m. in the Police Station Public Service Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jason Artz__X__, Don Francis__X__, Erin Ihm__X__, Suraya Strobl__X__,

Cindy Tang __X__ via Zoom__, Victoria Hundhausen_____, Brian Whisenant__X__

Staff in Attendance: Robert Lowe__X__

Members of the Public:

Bill Kloster

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Prior to a motion for approval was made Don Francis commented that he would like to see a more depth of detail in the minutes. A motion was made by Don Francis to approve the minutes from the August 2022 meeting, seconded by Brian Whisenant, Motion carried.

STAFF UPDATE Given on:

a. Senior Center Staff update

Discussion was held regarding potential future sites both short term and long term sites. Those sites included the Armory and the City Hall vacant lower east side. Last week a tour of the sites was given to Senior Center staff Ally Shanahan and Jill Goffnet. The clear preferred site was the City Hall location. Parking is always an issue but the City Hall site is more conducive to the seniors needs.

b. Platteville Family Aquatic Center/splash pad

Discussion was held regarding the area inside the pool area that used to be a kiddie pool. That pool was removed and then replaced with some play equipment and sand. That sand creates a few issues, cosmetically as it is hard to keep mowed, and the sand is hard to keep out of the large pool. Staff brought up the idea of a small splash pad which unanimously was viewed as a good idea. Request was made by the committee to get some pricing.

Other discussions were had regarding staffing the pool, the number of lifeguards, creating a pool policy for closing the pool because of weather or staff shortages and the general maintenance of the pool. Cindy Tang suggest Staff contact Burbach Aquatics Inc, to see if they might be able to resolve the pool continuous leading problem.

c. Inclusive Playground

An update was given on the progress of the Inclusive Playground. Staff is pleased with the progress. Brain Whisenant asked if any major issues have come up, to date no major issues have been reported. There are a few supply chain delays and the late summer start may mean that the rubberized ground cover may be delayed but otherwise progress is good.

d. Relocation of Playground Equipment

Staff updated the committee that at least one of the back order clamps had come in and was installed on the equipment by Abing Field at Legion Park. Some mulched has been added there more will be added but that piece is now ready for play. We are still waiting on a clamp for the other piece of playground relocated to moundview.

e. Activities Relocation from Armory

Discussion was held regarding the activities that were previously held at the Armory, were now forced to move to other locations ie OE Gray gym and/or the school gyms. The Armory will be put up for sale and the Parks & Recs lease was not renewed. Many activities had to be relocated. Because of the smaller size gym at OE Gray fewer participants will be able to attend the activities which is disappointing to everyone.

f. Armory Update

Staff update the committee on the due diligence done on the Armory. Including environmental issues primarily lead from the previous indoor firing range. The EPA has given a final case closure letter for the exterior issues clearing that of any necessary action. The interior is regulated by OSHA, which is less clear on its regulations for clearance. The standard for use is 40 milligrams/sq ft. Any time it exceeds that you must mitigate with a wet wipe plan. Which has been done a couple of times in the last 5 years or so. Staff has been asked by Council members for a rough proforma on potential income. Director Lowe met with Deb Jenny to estimate fair market value on the rentable space for the Armory.

g. Events and Rec program Coordinator updates

The update include a good year for NFL flag football which has now come to an end as well as the fall Intro to Sports activity.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

a. Friends of the Park Banquet February 16, 2023

Staff would like to host a spring banquet recognizing all the volunteers, organizations and community groups that make the Parks and Activities of Platteville possible. The intent is to host about 50 people at the Broske Center in a potluck style reception and recognize all those that make it possible.

b. Tour of the Lights City Park tree decoration.

City staff is trying to figure out a way to decorate a little more of City Park for the holidays. Cindy Tang commented to be sure to check with the Chamber and see what they plan to do.

c. Soccer field use and layout for 2023

Discussion was held regarding the referendum for improvements to the High School fields on the ballot this coming November. If passed this will present future possibilities as well as short term challenges. Funds received from the Power Soccer agreement will be used in part to improve the condition of the Community Park fields. Hopefully to a point where they then are usable for youth soccer. Parks Foreman Wand is getting quotes now.

Staff presented a rough layout on how it could maximize the space behind the school so that more of the soccer fields we centrally located. This would make it easier on parents and Parks Staff. The central location would save money and hopefully provide a better experience for the participants.

NEXT MEETING – Monday, November 21, 2022 7:00 p.m. in the Police Station Community Room.

Motion to adjourn by Suraya Stobl seconded by Erin Ihm. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm
Minutes by Robert Lowe