

## **PARKS, FORESTRY, & RECREATION COMMITTEE Minutes**

**Date 11-21-22\_**

The regular meeting of the Platteville Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Committee of the City of Platteville was called to order by Jason Artz at 7:00 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:

Mary Malischke and Paul Malischke

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Mary Malischke introduced herself and her husband Paul. She then asked if all the others present could introduce themselves, which they did. Mary commented on how she read that the Parks were exploring a splash pad and we were in favor of that idea. She then asked if the committee would consider a senior citizen rate for admission as she thought it might increase attendance. Mary also commented that she thought the pool entrance floor was very slippery and was hoping that consideration would be made on a fix for the slick conditions. She also thought the chemical mixture was quite strong and asked the committee if they would consider a product called BotainiClean which is used by Midwest Restoration and is available online.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Brian Whisenant to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2022 meeting, seconded by Suraya Strobl, Motion carried.

### **STAFF UPDATE Given on:**

#### **a. Platteville Family Aquatic Center/splash pad:**

Director Lowe gave an update on the potential planning for a splash pad. This splash pad would be placed in what is now known as the big dig. At one time a kid's wading pool was in that same location. So, the hope is that there are lines and drainage to that area that may lower the cost of the installation of the splash pad.

Director Lowe gave an update on the excessive water loss for the pool. Earlier that week Staff members met with pool engineer Andrew Pennekamp. Mr. Pennekamp gave some ideas on how to locate potential leaks. Lowe will update on any progress.

#### **b. Legion Rookie Field Ice Rink:**

Last summer the Parks Department purchased an ice rink that can be put up and torn down each season. This ice rink will be located just north of the horseshoe pits and just east of 2nd St. There is a new fire hydrant on 2nd St that will allow for the Parks Department to fill this ice rink. This new ice rink comes with a liner and should ease the issue of the constant freezing and thawing of the ground below the ice rink. The current size of the ice rink will be 40 by 80 but it's expandable if it's deemed necessary.

#### **c. New Community Park field work:**

With the passage of the Platteville School referendum work will begin on the High School athletic field areas. This will be a long-term wonderful thing for the community including Park's activities. The short-term challenges will be scheduling in the fields we will have available.

d. Inclusive Playground

An update was presented to the committee. Progress has been very good. The early cold weather will prohibit pouring of the playground surface until spring. Still hoping to do a grand opening in mid-April.

e. Activities Relocation

The staff reports the current activities are going smoothly considering the limited space in OE Gray. Class sizes were reduced since this space is considerably smaller than the Armory, but it is working.

f. Armory Update

The committee was informed that the RFP has gone out to the public for possible developers/buyers. The hope is the City will cover its cost to purchase of \$135,000 and the buyer will then allow the Parks Department to hold its regularly schedule activities in the Armory gymnasium.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Senior Center update. Work continues converting a portion of the first floor for the new location of the Senior Center. More updates to follow.

**NEW BUSINESS**

g. Intern higher

Parks has hired Keagan Gustin as our new intern. Keagan is a Health Management student and will be with us all spring. His duties will include planning and assisting with activities as well as many other day to day tasks.

h. New program ideas

Activities Coordinator Bartels will be working with the new intern to create some new activities including skateboarding, and frisbee golf.

**NEXT MEETING – Monday, December 19, 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 8:01 pm  
Minutes by Robert Lowe