

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
July 2, 2019

Chair Meka Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm on July 2, 2019 at Milham Park

Roll Call:

Members Present: Meka Phillips, Paul Teini, Chris Patchell, Kayleen Shafer, John Johnson

Members Absent: Erin Knott, Aliyah Adams, Pam Roland, Chris Bol

Staff Present: Corey Stamps, Alison Nuismer, Sean Fletcher, Patrick McVerry

Introduction of Guests: Nathan Dannison

Changes to the Agenda: None

Special Presentations:

Nathan Dannison reported they are looking to hold an event in Bronson Park on July 12 7:00pm – 9:00pm. This will be a Nationwide prayer visual that is for children that have been incarcerated along the southern border. Nathan also asked for permission to place a temporary religious structure in Bronson Park. This is a 10X10 kennel that they would like in the park for 11 days. Nathan mentioned that people would get to place prayers in between the gates of the kennel.

Sean mentioned that Clyde Robinsons concern is if we allow the kennel it opens the door for other events to do the same.

Kayleen asked why not place the kennel in the parking lot of the church. Nathan mentioned the parking lot is not very big. They thought it would be more appropriate in Bronson Park.

Kayleen asked if it didn't go through what would you do. He said he would just go back to the church and see what they would want to do.

Nathan mentioned their goal is to get everything accomplished by this Friday.

Sean mentioned the visual is okay, but the display is more so controversial. Its more so because of the past demonstrations.

Sean's recommendation is for the event but not on the display.

Voted to approve the event the event not the display

Approval of Minutes:

The June minutes were unanimously approved

Old Business:

Farmers Market: Sean updated we have been working on the latest version of the master plan to save money. The counties suggestions is to have a 4 foot wide side walk then a 10ft wide bike path to take people to the market which would be less expensive. Sean mentioned the good news is its finally time to get this on the books to be complete. John asked what's the plan for the farmers market during this project. Sean responded Mayors comes up as a good option because of parking and facilities. Currently there are no set plans for moving the market; It will be closed for 8-9 months. Sean also mentioned we are working to come up with a financial plan to get everything done. They feel like they can chunk it and do things in phases as well as using grants.

John mentioned the timeline is really helpful. He also asked is his letter premature.

Sean mentioned that it's important that the City Mangers know that you want the changes

New Business:

Milham Park Dam: Sean reported we are working with a company to assess the dam to see what's happening with the water. The current structure of the water could wash out the bridge. Patrick mentioned we got \$50,000 for grants and \$298,000 from the state and DNR. They are looking to start in January with the dam out and will work from there for the summer. Sean and Patrick are going to the Millwood Neighborhood Association to provide an update tonight.

Event Recommendations: None

Comments: None

Citizens: Kzoo Sunrise Rotary: Charles Parker reported they were here months ago about the Rose Park name change. They asked what is the answer?

Sean mentioned he communicated in writing that it must remain Rose Park and there are deed restrictions.

Charles mentioned they are ok about the name Rose Park. They want to name the plaza Robert L Cook Veteran Memorial Plaza.

Sean mentioned that is not up to him that is up to the Commission.

Kayleen asked is this going to be a new plaque or a new sign

Charles mentioned they want a new sign that they will pay for. It will be on the brick where the current sign is

Charles also mentioned the Sunrise Rotary added Veteran Memorial to the name Rose Park so, they want to add Robert I Cook in the front.

Paul asked the park would still be Rose Park, but the plaza would be the name change. They said yes.

John mentioned he doesn't have a problem, but he doesn't know the restrictions.

Charles mentioned it must be Rose Park, but you can add on to it.

Kayleen has no problems with them wanting to honor someone. She mentioned there is too much history that she doesn't know to make a vote on it. Charles asked what part isn't clear. Kayleen responded that she is not sure on how it was changed from the beginning.

Chris would like to make a motion for the new plaza name John seconded it.

Meka and Kayleen opposed.

Commission Liaison:

Friends of Recreation Liaison Update:

Alison reported, the golf outing registration is open, and they are looking for sponsorships. You can register through Friends of Rec. The programs are going, and scholarships are out. They are a little lower than normal. There has only been 1 family who needed a full scholarship.

Parks and Recreation Director Monthly Report:

Sean reported, we are struggling with mowing and we are trying to find a solution. We are looking to bring everything in house for smaller parks. One thing about having your own crew is we can call our staff for overtime and get it mowed. Sean also mentioned we are halfway through the year and revenue looks good. The Kik Pool was recently painted and looks cool. Its homework if you have not seen it. We received the video board to show movies earlier. The sound is awesome, and the picture is clear. We plan on showing more movies this year.

Staff:

None

Board Members:

Chris Patchell mentioned Crane park received publicity in a magazine posting. The magazine can be picked up at any restaurant or grocery store.

Kayleen mentioned the video Parks and Recreation put out she likes it and shared it. She is also moving and will no longer live in the city. She is moving to 7th St. off stadium. Sean mentioned that's cityish.

Meka asked John if he ever sent the letter to Erin. John responded yes, I sent an email and heard nothing back. Meka also mentioned she has a friend who lives on Henderson Dr and they love the new lights.

Adjournment: 6:24pm

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday August 6, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at Frays Park

Respectfully submitted by Corey Stamps, Recording Secretary

Recording Secretary

Chair