

Berkley Parks and Recreation Advisory Panel Meeting Minutes 6/11/2020

Following the Governor's executive order this meeting was held via an electronic platform.

Present: John Nicolai, Greg Patterson, Gary Polk, Betty Smith, Joshua Pollard Mike Kerby

Absent: Joshua Pollard

Also Present: Theresa McArleton, Scott Jennex, Mayor Pro Tem Bridget Dean, Melissa Hammond

Call to order: The regular meeting of the Berkley Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order a 7:01 PM by chair Mike Kerby.

Approval of Agenda: Motioned by Betty Smith and seconded by John Nicolai

Approval of prior minutes: Motioned by Gary Polk and Seconded by John Nicolai

Public Comments: Melissa Hammond explained why she would like to be considered for an appointment to the open seat on the P&R board. She is involved in the Friends of Parks and Rec and is wants to become more involved in the community.

1. STATUS OF DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS DUE TO COVID-19

Starting to reopen with safety a priority. Outdoor activities are starting. At this time waiting to hear rules from the state as to when allowed to reopen the building. Staff to start reporting June 15th

There will be baseball starting in the fall. The details are coming. Teams might start in mid to end of July or the end of August. City requiring guidelines to be submitted by teams that would like to use the tennis court and the baseball fields.

2. 2020/21 SCENARIO PLANNING – UPDATED BUDGET

Carryover for Oxford Merchant park. Sand Pro is budgeted for this year to help maintain the baseball fields. New equipment for Tot-Lot was approved. Two parks are being completed this year and two new maintenance equipment was approved. The budget is subjective to amendments. With camp being canceled, there is expected to be loss of revenue.

3. OXFORD/MERCHANTS PARK UPDATE:

The Planning Commission granted recommendation of site approval site plan will go to City Council next. DNR approved plans from HRC and will go to bid 6/12. Bids to be returned by 7/14. End of August to be the start of the work date. Completed in mid-April 2021. Delay of the project caused by COVID-19. Property bought in 2014 and City, community members, and PR staff has been working on the redevelopment of the park since. Approval of the grant has helped move this project along.

4. FIVE YEAR RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATES:

Awarded the bid to Carlie Wortman to work on the five-year master plan. They have held a steering committee. Have prepared a draft survey to go out in June. Focus group meetings to be held soon. Will most likely held virtually. Wanting more public involvement and Carlie Wortman is aware of this.

5. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES:

Council to extend the deadline to July 31, August 10th

John, Greg, Josh, and Betty have applied or plan to apply to have their seat reappointed. Three applications have been received to replace one vacant spot. Melissa Hammond was present and asked for a recommendation. After discussion, it was moved by the board to recommend to City Council that Melissa be appointed to the board. It was stated that the City Council is tasked with making the appointments to all boards.

6. UPDATED MEETING SCHEDULE:

It is recommended by the City Council for all boards and the commission will meet every other month. The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be on August 13th at 7 PM. If there is a need for an additional meeting the board will have the ability to set one.

MISCELLANEOUS

Greg: Suggested to have parks renamed before the wayfinding signs are made.

John: Recognizes the unseen amount of work that the staff does that goes unnoticed.

Gary: Glad to see everyone in good health and wishes everyone the best.

Betty: Missing the programs that typically would be happening in the spring and summer and wishes everyone continued health and safety.

Scott: Great to be back, starting to open outdoor programs.

Melissa: Excited to hear that Tot-Lot is moving ahead.

Therese: Glad to be back and see everyone again. The staff has been adapting and keeping everyone uplifted. Looking forward to seeing more people and to move into the next phases to see even more people when deemed safe to do so.

Bridget: City Council has active and now meeting mostly online. Recently passed a pride and diversity proclamation and a maintenance plan. Working to help get a lot of businesses open. The city has proposed to close streets to allow businesses to extend more outdoor area.

Mike: Batting cage is being inspected next week. Baseball was canceled this season. Glad to see that budget is moving forward and getting some equipment.