

September 14, 2014 Playground and Recreation Board minutes

Recreation Board Members Present: Phil McNally, Eldon Leemhuis, John Levy, Kevin Quick, Jeane Schafer (Mark Astle, Director of Recreation)

Others attending the meeting: none

Guests: Brent Roalson representing OGFA

Recreation Board Members Absent: Tess Burke, Steve Kuhn, Maribeth Manigold

1. John moved to approve the August meeting minutes. Eldon second. Motion passed
2. John moved to accept the August Recreation financial report. Kevin second. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion passed.
3. John moved to accept the August Pool financial reports. Eldon second. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion passed.
4. Pool Manager's report
 - a. Provided board with attendance and revenue data
 - b. All inspections passed with 100%.
 - c. Reported that wooden around pool were rotting and had been remove.
 - d. Reported that winterizing was ongoing. There was no required maintenance that needed to be done this winter
 - e. Phil Reported that OHS had used the pool until chemicals ran out. State police chose not to pay the required fee to use the pool for their training.
5. Commissioner's report – In Commissioner Aussem's absence, Phil reminded the board that they are still looking for another member.
6. Director's Report:
 - a. Mark reported on the summer recreation program financials. The overall cost of running the summer recreation programs was \$4.44 per participant, in line with previous years. There were over 3000 registrations for the various programs and special events. This too was in line with previous years.
 - b. Mark reported that the fall softball season would be finished in three weeks. He reported that he was developing a survey to measure softball player satisfaction. He expressed his hope that the softball survey would lead to a survey regarding recreation programs.
7. Old Business:
 - a. The board discussed bonuses and raises for Jim Jobst, Ann Johnson, and Mark Astle. Mark expressed his reticence to accept a bonus or raise if the recreation employees were not also being considered.
 - b. The board tabled the discussion of raises.
 - c. John moved to give Ann Johnson a bonus of \$425 and Jim Jobst a bonus of \$300 to recognize their efforts over the course of the summer. In addition, the board

will discuss permanent raises for Mark and the summer Rec employees at the next board meeting. Eldon second. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion passed.

8. Long-Range Planning and Board goals

i. Lincoln-Douglas Complex

1. The board discussed the Clegg Perkins bill to repair the lights damaged by vandalism on June Gross Field. Phil said he would look into whether the city should reimburse the board or if the city had insurance to cover the cost. John moved to approve paying the bill of \$3413.61. Kevin second. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion passed.
2. Phil reported that Whitney Field needs infield mix to begin preparation for the winter.

- b. Bike Paths – Phil announced that there would be a bike path meeting upcoming.
- c. Long range planning – Tami sent board members copies of the current long range plan to examine.
- d. Construction in Progress and Long-Range Planning – Phil reported that areas have been prepared for the installation of play equipment.
- e. Future parks – The board heard a presentation from Brent Roalson regarding the possibility of turning the practice field at Peck Park into a playable diamond usable by softball, pony league, and little league. He informed the board that OGFA is willing to commit up to \$15000. After discussion, the board asked Mr. Roalson to contact the other baseball youth organizations in town to see if they would be interested in contributing. The board tabled the discussion until October when more information was available.

9. Committee Reports

- a. By-laws – (Maribeth) none
- b. Finance – (Maribeth) none
- c. Parks – (Eldon) – Eldon distributed individualize park inspections for each park so that past concerns are examined closely. Forms should be returned at the October meeting.
- d. Programs – Phil –
 - i. Phil asked the board to contribute \$1000 to Ottawa Baseball Boosters for the upkeep of Whitney Field. Eldon move to contribute the money to OBB. John second. Roll Call: All Aye. Motion passed.
 - ii. Phil reported that he had pursued the cost of installing a light switch outside the concession stand for the OGFA fields to insure ease of use and safety. The cost for a key switch would be approximately \$6700
- e. Pool -- – see above.

10. New Business – Phil distributed Mark’s evaluation form. The board asked Mark to email them his job description to help with the evaluation.

11. Meeting adjourned.