

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes October 20, 2021

Attendance

Davina Bell, Andy McGlenn (Chair), Erika Robertson, Shirin Jenkins (Co-Chair), Ron McMillan, Sam Lee, Kevin Spears, Hunter Holland, Will Bordeaux, Zach Gilbert

Absent

David Eason, Gabriella De Souza, Ingrid Corbi, Emily Morgan (Secretary)

Approval of August 2021 Minutes

Shirin made a motion to approve the August 2021 minutes, Hunter seconded, all approved.

Introduction Parks Superintendent – Ron McMillan

Ron McMillan comes from Greensboro, NC where he worked as a division manager in parks. He has experience in facility management, landscape management.

Park Ranger Position – they have conducted several interviews. They have chosen a candidate, what should and should be. They are aware of what will be expected of them. In the next few weeks they will bring this person on board, sometime in November. This staff member will be primarily at Greenfield Park, some at Riverfront Park as well. This position will build relationships with citizens who visit the parks. They are just waiting for the acceptance letter from the candidate.

Homeless Camps – the amount of time staff spent on cleaning up homeless camps within the city. They had a person use the boardwalk as an indoor facility. This is a weekly occurrence, Monday's are the biggest clean up day. They are very conscious of citizens using the parks. They are looking at ways to keep the parks clean and sanitized for citizens and staff. Once the weather gets cooler, the homeless camps will be less active, and can be cleaned up. Park staff are trying to come up with ways to accomplish cleaning up the parks within the city. Erika asked any other parks besides Greenfield that have homeless camps. Empie Park and Riverwalk.

Greenfield Park Master Plan

Kick-off meeting will be on November 2nd, Ron and his staff will take the lead on the Greenfield Park Master Plan.

Comprehensive Plan Update

Summary of findings meeting rescheduled for 11/15/21. McAdams will be presenting what their findings are with the survey and public meetings. The number they needed to get back was 400 and they barely got that back. Next meeting Davina will share the findings from the November 15th meeting.

Portia Hines Park Project Update

Construction started on October 19, 2021, groundbreaking is scheduled for October 25.

Old Business

The secretary position for the board is still vacant. Davina will talk to Ingrid about taking this on.

Olsen update – Staff is working with designer on scope, plan to include pickleball courts, maintenance shed, possibly graded soccer fields and walking path.

Riverfront Park has the following upcoming civic events: Lighthouse Beer & Wine Festival (10/30/21), Veteran's Day Event (11/6/21), and Beer, Bourbon & BBQ Festival (11/13/21). The west gardens should be done by end of November.

Recreation staff met to discuss programming opportunities for the park. Programs will likely begin being offered in the Spring.

New Business

Assistant Director for Parks & Recreation position is being reviewed and finalized by Assistant City Manager, Thom Moton, no timetable for when the position will be advertised.

Hunter is part of a group called "A Long Talk About Racism" which does meetings and events regarding racism.

Adjournment

Hunter made a motion to adjourn, Will seconded the motion, all approved.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 17, 5:30PM at the MLK Center, in the back class room.