

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
CITY OF WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI  
January 11, 2023**

**Agenda Item #1: Call Meeting to Order** – Co-Chair, Sparky Stuckenschneider, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

**Agenda Item #2: Roll Call** – Director of Parks & Recreation, Wayne Dunker called roll.

Commission Members in attendance included: Dan Cassette, Bob Dzurick, Bob Kloeppel, Kevin Kriete, Jeanne Miller Wood, Gavin Woolley.

Council Liaisons: Al Behr and Jeff Patke

Not in attendance: Co-Chair Tessie Steffens, Dave Wehmeyer and Betty Werner

**Agenda Item #3: Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Item #4: Approval Minutes** – December 14, 2022, by Gavin Woolley with a second by Bob Dzurick.

**Agenda Item #5: Parks Report** – *given by Wayne Dunker*

- The City, Garden Club, and owners of The Alley, the business that is in negotiations on purchasing Lafayette Park, met to discuss the future of the park. Nothing is official, but it was proposed that the City keep the pavilion & bench, sidewalk, tree & small grass area of the park, and the rest could become parking. The Garden Club did not have any interest in taking on a new project, so this will allow the Garden Club to maintain what they have been doing for nearly 50 years.
- Phoenix Park Playground Fence has been installed and looks good. Staff are still doing some grading work and finishing the landscaping beds. Staff are trying to reduce the overall maintenance in the park, so we moved some randomly placed rocks/boulders that were in the way for the contracted mowing crew and that were throughout the park to make a landscape bed along the two tennis courts. Will be adding pine trees to help make a windscreen for the tennis courts.
- The gym floor in the Auditorium was recently redone, there are now three courts with permanent lines painted instead of taped court lines.
- Meeting with the Fair Board and the contractor they selected to go over the Entertainment Pavilion Project timeline. The Fair Board would like the pavilion completed before the 2023 fair.
- Riverfront playground should be shipping at the end of January. The Contractor is looking to install in February, depending on weather.
- Miller-Post trail installation is moving along. Staff are doing some general cleanup of the area as well.
- Working on a plan to upgrade at least one of the courtesy docks at Riverfront Park since the

river is low.

#### **Agenda Item #6: Communications from Audience –**

*Mayor Hagedorn was not present during the Lafayette Plaza discussion earlier in the meeting. He added to the discussion on The Alley negotiations. Nothing has been decided and all parties involved are trying to make a good compromise.*

*Mayor Hagedorn also wanted to let the Commission know that the City will be adding a 3% tax on recreational marijuana to the April ballot. He would like the Commission's support to help this tax pass. The revenue will go into the budgets General Fund but will be earmarked to be used for Parks and Dispatchers. By not dedicating a specific percentage to the parks and recreation, this allows the City to still go out for a dedicated Parks Sales Tax in the future if needed.*

#### **Agenda Item #7: Old Business –**

##### Memorial Bench Committee:

- Finance approved the purchasing of benches in bulk without going out to bid since these are specific benches that we have been using.
- Bench prices are going up again in January
- Hoping to get the guidelines established in the next few weeks so we can contact the waiting list.

##### Mike & Eileen Stapp HOF Recognition –February 6 Council Meeting:

- The Plaque has been ordered and the dedication will be at 7 pm on February 6, at the City Council meeting.

#### **Agenda Items #8: New Business**

##### Skate Park Renovation Phase 1:

- The concrete and fence work is the first phase. A demo of the current asphalt and fence will be done by the Staff. Will be bidding out the new concrete and fencing.
- Hoping to have a contractor start work this winter.
- Concrete prices went up in January, so we're hoping there is still money left to move onto to Phase 2, which is cosmetic upgrades to the pavilion and restrooms.

##### East & West Rotary Riverfront Trail Connection RTP Grant – Recommendation:

- City didn't receive the grant in 2022. Review Board wanted more detail on the actual trail construction. Cochran Engineering is working on that detail.
- Review Board also wanted to see more public input, Administration is working on a plan.
- Wayne asked for a recommendation from the Parks & Recreation Commission to apply for the RTP Grant again. BOB Kloeppel made a motion and DAN Cassette made a second to apply for the 2023 RTP Grant.

##### Rental & Facility Fee Review:

- Staff sat down before Christmas and reviewed the current fees that were revised in 2019. The Staff has found that a few facilities are not being rented as much as they used to and were thinking it is due to the increase in 2019.
- Will get a document together and will present fee recommendations to the Commission.

Naming of Lake Pavilions (#1-#3):

- Wayne asked the Commission if they had suggestions on giving the pavilions names. We currently call them Lions Lake Pavilion #1, 2 & 3.
- Committee suggested leaving the names the same since the Lions Club is also associated (donations) with the pavilions. Commission suggested putting signs with larger numbers (#1, 2, 3) on the pavilions to help the public.

**Agenda Item #9: None**

**Agenda Item #10: Next Meeting** – February 8, 2023, at 5:30 pm

**Agenda Item #11: Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm by Bob Dzurick with a second by Jeanne Miller Wood.

MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION APPROVAL.