

Monday, August 26, 2024 meeting minutes

The Connersville Parks and Recreation board met in the council chambers of City Hall on Monday, August 26, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

President Amy Hammons presided with board members, Ann Kirschner, Angie McMullen, and Vane Lashua present. Park Superintendent Marla Steele, Park Assistant Superintendent Grace Williams, Sports Director Logan Neukam, and Park Secretary Kelly Moffett were also present.

President Amy Hammons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Kelly Moffett completed the roll call.

There were no additions or corrections to the July minutes. Board member Ann Kirschner made a motion to accept June's minutes, and board member Vane Lashua seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Park Superintendent Marla Steele gave the Park Superintendent a monthly report. Shaine Capps will remain with the parks department as a part time employee.

Vandalism continues to be a problem at our parks. We have had numerous windows broken, Storybook Walk at Nickel Plate Trail has been fixed multiple times and continues to be vandalized shortly after repairing, we will not be replacing it at this time. We have also had concession stand damage at Rivers Edge.

We had several events in July that we were sponsored by generous donors in the community. Summer Discovery last day event, July Parks Appreciation month, Parks Professionals Month were some of the events that took place. Kona Ice, Pizza King, Whitewater Eye Center, Wings Etc., CHS Athletics, Wildflowers Beauty, Yaryan Eye Center, Brockmans, and Eleven 11 Salon all donated towards the events. Combs Custom Flooring remodeled the floors at the Administration Building and Floyd & Sons cleaned the carpets in the Banquet Hall.

Horse Barn 1 was painted this summer by one of our seasonal employees. She did a great job and the stalls and barn look great. We have stalls available for rent.

Marla has been working this summer with HWC on the Offutts Park project. We are working with the Foundation and HWC on the Lilly Gift Grant. If we receive this grant, we are hoping to add walking trails and an inclusion park at Roberts Park.

Upcoming events: Living Well, Aging Well programs begin September 2. Girls Basketball registration currently going on until September 20. Community Day of Sharing will be October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Renaissance Fair will be on October 12th. First

Responders Trunk of Treat will be October 29<sup>th</sup>. Illuminate the Park will be the month of December 2024.

Marla read a Thank you card from Levi Marszalek for allowing him to complete his Eagle Scout project at Roberts Park.

The Assistant Superintendents report was given by Grace. The last day for the pool to be open through the week was August 6<sup>th</sup>. We are still open Saturdays and Sundays in August through August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Grace has been researching new ideas to incorporate into the Living Well, Aging Well program for this winter. The Reid Health Grant was used to purchase a couple of sets of cornhole boards and bags that will remain indoors for 50+ to play during the winter. We will start back with scheduled events September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Grace is continuing to look for additional grants to be able to make a difference with the Living Well, Aging Well program. We have some dates planned for our Junk in the Trunk event.

Logan gave his Athletic Director report. Fall Soccer season is set to begin on September 7<sup>th</sup>. We had around 275 kids register. We are still looking for referees, and will be holding a referee training class on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Co-Ed Softball league is still going on, the tournament will be September 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>. Dennis Ellis has been umpiring the softball league.

Girls basketball registrations are going on now through September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Future goals are to get Rivers Edge compliant.

Old Business: No old business

New Business: Marla reported that we are currently looking into cameras for Roberts Park by the bridge, skate park, playground, pickleball and tennis courts. She has received several quotes. The quote from Hill-Fi is attached in the board packet. She would like this to be considered to adding to the budget. Board member Anne Kirschner questioned if the total amount would be around \$6000, Marla confirmed.

Marla explained in detail about the current Grant projects. In 2022 the city received a help grant. We thought we could use the grant money at 2 locations, but we can only use it at Offutts Park. We took opening bids to the Board of Works meeting. The bids came in higher than the amount the grant was for, so we will have to remove things from the project. Next year ground breaking should begin for the walking path around Offutts Park.

Hunger Skate Park is working on the design for the skate park and pump track. It will go back by the playground on the northeast side. The funding for the skate park only puts in the park, no landscaping or anything else is included in that.

The Foundation included the Park in the Lilly Gift Grant. We received funding for Phase 1 of the grant and are currently in the application process for Phase II of the grant. If we receive this grant, we hope to add walking trails and an inclusion park at Roberts Park.

President, Amy Hammons explained how grants work and we have to follow the guidelines set in order to receive the funding.

At the next Board of Works meeting, we will be transferring money amongst accounts to cover expenses.

Miscellaneous Business: No miscellaneous business.

No public forum.

Angie McMullen made a motion to approve claims including payroll. Vane Lashua seconded. Motion carried.

Angie McMullen entertained a motion to adjourn and Vane Lashua seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Scribed by: Kelly Moffett

August 27, 2024

Park Board Meeting approved minutes

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Amy Hammons, President

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Angie McMullen, Vice President

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Vane Lashua, Board Member

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Julie Fisher, Board Member

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Ann Kirschner, Board Member

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Sasha Henderson Board Member