

PUBLIC MEETING NOTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019 @ 7:00 PM
JAMES J. EAGAN CENTER

Public Hearing to discuss enhancements to Splash Pad at Koch Park

In attendance: Representatives from Parks and Recreation Advisory Board see attached attendance sheet.

Meeting began at 7:15 pm

Cheryl Thompson, Director of Parks and Recreation gave a brief explanation about the planning grant and what ideas the City has for enhancements for the Splash Pad. Staff has made the recommendation to add a new restroom adjacent to the Splash Pad, a new playground for all ages hopefully it will have some features for children with disabilities, and small picnic areas with a table and four seats with a cover. We have added 2 additional picnic areas since the last meeting. This grant is the largest the City has submitted. We still only get \$525,000.00 but the totals as of now are \$646,000.00 so we will have to come up with some additional funds to complete this or make a few cuts. We are putting in 2 playgrounds one for 2-5 year olds and the other 6-12 years, a climbing rock and a set of swings by each. So we could possibly cut the swings and the climbing rock and put up the structures and finish them at a later date. We have to wait and see how it all comes together. The information presented tonight is conceptual and any suggestions will be considered for the completed project. The drawings are showing existing conditions around the soon to be Splash Pad. Any and all suggestions are welcomed and will be considered for including in the final concept.

Ken Keitel from TerraSpec discussed the enhancements to the Splash Pad at Koch Park. Having public discussions is a requirement to receive funding from the Municipal Park Grant Commission. Ken brought several drawings which display all the features that have been requested. At this time there is time for suggestions and Ken can make any changes requested.

Suggestions by the board are: having changing tables in each restroom and also one adult changing table. Jason asked about a path from the ballfields to the Splash Pad.

Public Hearing Meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019 @ 7:00PM
JAMES J. EAGAN CENTER**

Board Members Present: Linda Rose, Walt Kaiser, Rev. Robinson, Robert Shoemaker, Monica Wideman, Kristina Curnutt, Jason Steinbruegge and Kim Burns.

Not in attendance: Andre Hill

City Attendance: Cheryl Thompson, Beth Goldstein and Kim Hedgpeth

Approval of Minutes: Meeting began at 7:02 p.m. All in attendance approved minutes as written.

Citizen Participation: None

Report from Superintendent:

- The Manion Park project is completed and the final punch list is underway.
- The Splash Pad is well under construction and the contractor has guaranteed the Sept. 20th opening.
- Staff is starting to work on the 5k Suicide Prevention race. We are looking for sponsors so if you have anyone who would like help or donate anything towards this race please have them contact Beth Carr at bcarr@florissantmo.com or 314-921-4250 at JFK.
- Bangert pool has started the end of the year schedule where it will only be open on weekends and of course the Labor Day holiday will be the last day of operation for this season.
- The annual doggie swim will be held on Tuesday, September 3 from 6-8 p.m.
- We are still working on the date for the Focus and Parks and Recreation brochure. At this point this may not happen until April of next year. But this is still to be determined.
- Many new classes are starting please check the new brochure of all of the new classes.
- Within the next week I am hopeful of getting the grant submitted with the current design this will be approximately \$100,000 more than previous
- I am diligently working on putting the 2020 Budget together. We will try to work on installing the kids bike training pad into Dunegant, the mayor and I have met with Accessible Play and Unlimited Play we are working on the goal of next year's grant that would be submitted for a 2021 project to complete the Inclusive playground at Manion Park, the new playground that is being proposed at Koch Park will have shade structures and adjacent covered picnic areas, money is also being added to the budget to refurbish the game rooms at both JJE & JFK.
- The CTS project for energy efficiency upgrades has begun and will continue on throughout the next couple of months. Much of the work is going to be done at JFK with some roof repairs at other park facilities such as park maintenance, Veach Pavilion and restroom at St. Ferdinand and roofs at JJE.
- JJE Pool reopened on Monday after its annual maintenance.
- Kim is here to review the youth survey that she has created as previously requested.

Cheryl invited all Park Board Members to attend the Suicide Prevention event. We are donating some of the money to Chads Coalition which works close with Ferguson/Florissant and Hazelwood School Districts. The company who does our fireworks will be providing some pyrotechnics for the race, and they work close with Chads Coalition.

Kim: Introduced a Youth Survey that will be administered to the young people that come into the centers. We want to see what they would like to see changed or added to the centers and the teen lounge. The staff will start giving out the survey the day after Labor Day. If the youth fill out the survey we will give them a one day free pass for the center. After about a month we will see if we want to send it out on social media. We feel getting information from the youth that already use the center would be a good start.

Walt suggested adding to the survey why we are doing the survey?

Monica thought the question what city do you live in should be changed to what is your zip code. Monica feels the survey should be added to the Park Board Facebook page because when school starts the attendance will drop at the centers. Kim pointed out that our attendance is better during the school year. The kids come right from school.

Kristina and Jason suggested finding out if they are residents or nonresidents.

Jason suggested combining the last 3 or 4 questions. Kim feels they need to be separate due to the youth participating in different areas.

Cheryl added we are putting additional funds in the budget to make some changes in the teen lounge and with the survey we can get ideas from the youth.

Kristina added it would be nice to ask on the survey what we could change to get more of your friends to come.

It was suggested to keep track of who fills out the survey so we are not giving out duplicate passes.

Announcements: Rev. Dr. Edward G. Robinson has invited the members to the St. Louis Progressive District Installations Service. Dr. Robinson has been chosen as the St. Louis Progressive District Moderator.

Walt announced that at the 8-26-19 Council Meeting the City will be declared at POW, MIA City. This means we can advertise this on the highway signs.

VFW will have a special Ceremony for September 11th starting at 7:00 pm.

Linda went to Ward 8 meeting and a group called Be Smart for Kids.org attended and passed out information. (See attachment) This group would like to attend other City events.

Communications: None

New Business: Linda suggested cancelling September 11, 2019 meeting due to all the September 11th events.

Monica would like to know what the age is for the Circus Harmony event. Kim will email Monica information.

Board discussed the new brochure with all the new classes and events.

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Unfinished Business:

Monica brought up that at last meeting Cheryl said we would be getting an evaluation at Bangert? Cheryl informed her it has been done and Kim said we should have results tomorrow.

Adjournment: Robert made a motion to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. and was seconded by Walt.