

**Parks & Recreation Board**  
**Meeting Minutes – January 19 – 4:00pm**  
**Parks Recreation & Civic Facilities Department**

2017 JAN 24 AM 7:59  
CITY CLERK

**Members Present:** Valerie Brandt, Larry Douglas, Bob Hatten, Joe Houts, Jerry Wilkerson

**Members Absent:** Wonda Berry, Karen Foley, Keeran King, Jeremy White

**City Staff Present:** Chuck Kempf, Director Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities  
Jeff Atkins, Assist Director Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order Chair Joe Houts.

**Approval of Minutes:** No minutes for the December meeting since there was no quorum to conduct meeting.

**Updates:**

**Hyde Park Complex** Had a council work session this week regarding short funds to complete. Remaining areas would come to \$145,000 to finish. Areas that are short funding are irrigation, safety netting, dugouts, asphalt overlay parking lot, service access, and bleachers. Alternate funding had moderate success with the Fundraising Committee raising \$4,500. Bode Trust has agreed to provide \$35,000 if the city will match for the bleachers. We received a \$5,000 Royals Charitable Foundation Grant for dugouts. Concrete work is on hold until weather breaks. Concrete will be in house by Parks Department and Public Works Department employees. Bleachers need to be ordered. Contractor is currently working on the concession stand.

**Holiday Park – South Pole** Holiday Park – South Pole completed another successful year. Almost all of the displays have been taken down. The only thing left is up high and we are unable to access until weather and ground conditions clear up. If anyone has not had the opportunity photographer Patrick Evenson took some very nice pictures of Holiday Park/South Pole. (Email links to Board members) Fun statistics: amount of Cherry Mash used 215 cases, average 450 pieces per case, 96,750 people, averaging 2,688 per night and 28,456 cars, and equaling 4,945 pounds of Cherry Mash.

**Resurfacing update/status** Bode outdoor basketball courts and inline skating rink – January 26, bids will be opened. Some of the work will be in-house to repurpose the area. We received permission from Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to repurpose the inline skate park into other recreational use. We plan to paint three permanent pickleball courts. Will also use for multipurpose such as Adaptive sports. Figure Skating group uses as a venue to walk through their skating routines. We have had a lot of interest in outdoor pickleball courts from in and out of town groups.

**Heart of America Softball Tournament** The Convention & visitors Bureau worked with us to submit a bid for the NAIA Heart of America Conference baseball & softball tournaments. We were awarded the softball conference tournament in May. We were asked to hold the Women’s NAIA Basketball this year at the Civic Arena, but with previously established commitments we were not able to accommodate this year. Plans are to bid on this one again.

**Recreation Basketball** The numbers are down this year and are not for sure why. The school district is completely disassociated themselves from the program and do not have any interest in assisting again. Six years ago we had 192 teams and this year we are below 100. Not for sure if there isn’t as much interest or something else. We are trying to get a handle on why and hope to get the number back up to around 125, which is what we can handle without the schools. Obtaining officials continues to be an issue.

**Eclipse** Ongoing planning – we will be managing our facilities, traffic, parking, portable restrooms. As well as primitive camping at Heritage Park along bringing in a shower/charging station trailer. Not for sure what to expect as of yet. Portables will be distributed throughout the various viewing sites. We anticipate the Riverfront area to be heavily used. The Police Department are focusing on crime prevention during the eclipse. We expect our staff to be more in charge of traffic and customer service.

**LWCF – possible projects for grants** We unsuccessfully applied for LWCF grant last year. Since we were not awarded, we are eligible to apply again this year. We plan on applying for the LWCF & Recreational Trails Program grant again. The LWCF is capped at \$250,000, with a 50/50 match from the city. The Recreational Trails Program grant is capped at \$150,000 for construction projects and \$25,000 for education, which would include marketing, signage, etc. We have a short window around five weeks to apply. The grants timeline would be completion within two years. If we could get one of them we may be able to complete about the time the next CIP. Demographics, recreation & sports are key points in the grant.

We have a possible four projects for the LWCF grant.

- 1.) Bartlett Park Playground - renovate and replace along with safety surface and installation of disc golf course.
- 2.) NE Park – add bocce ball courts, expand trail, expand pond for fishing; and complete Phase II & III of the Pavilion.
- 3.) Northside Complex – building renovation, pavilion, replace inoperable underground electric lines, and tennis court renovation
- 4.) Hyde Park – pool, tennis courts, and basketball & horseshoe courts renovate and replace, Splash pad, bocce/shuffleboard courts could be a new addition.

Discussion:

Concerns whether the timing and coordination of Northside Complex would be hard to complete.

Question as to whether the NE Park would qualify for the demographic requirement since it is more commercial instead of residential.

Hyde Park with current renovations would it be too much to do right now.

More extreme sports areas are being asked for by the current generation, i.e. disc golf, ultimate Frisbee.

Motion presented and approved: Parks and Recreation Board are in favor of Bartlett Park Playground as the best project to go with at this time.

A letter from the Board giving their support of the project will be submitted along with the application.

**Upcoming Events:** List of upcoming events will be distributed along with minutes to members.

**Winter Month's Meeting Schedule** Tabled until next meeting. An email will go out asking members to give some idea of what months would be a bad time to meet. This is so that a meeting can be held with a quorum.

**Open Discussion:**            **Miscellaneous**        Valerie Brandt – presented KABOOM grants there are \$15,000 grants available. They are to help get the community involved in building and/or renovating a playground. The organization provides people and guidance with publicity and assist the day of the build. The concept is to cultivate pride and ownership in the area through community involvement. The grant can be applied for at various times throughout the year. Valerie had assisted with one of the KABOOM projects in New Orleans after the hurricane and said it was a great experience. This may be something that could go along with the Bartlett Park playground project.

Chuck Kempf - parks department received a check from Robert Buller Trust in the amount of \$60,261.29. Mr. Buller had requested that a portion of his estate be left to Noyes Home and Muchenberger Center. Since Muchenberger is no longer a facility we own, the estate attorney wanted to work out something that would work with Mr. Buller's intent. Paperwork had to be submitted through the court to amend the donation for another use. It was decide that it would be used for Eagles Ball Field renovations.

Kenny Reeder – Mr. Reeder made the suggestion that we made the camp ground a permanent fixture at Heritage Park. There are numerous times that it would benefit if it was permanent. He feels that the eclipse might be mostly a day trip for people from surrounding areas and not as much overnight.

**Adjournment:**            Meeting was adjourned at 5:08 pm.

**Next Meeting:**            February 16, 4:00pm, Park Administrative Office

Respectfully submitted – Lori Frederick, Administrative Specialist, Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities Department