

Parks and Recreation Board
 July 15, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.
 Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities, 1920 Grand Avenue

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Members' Term Attendance</u> (mtgs attended-mtgs absent)	<u>End of Current Term of Office</u>
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Lanham, Annette	(12-1)	02/03/25
	Luedtke, Patti	(10-0)	08/31/25
	Montegna, Eric	(1-0)	06/28/26
	Mooney, Scott	(1-0)	06/28/26
	Nelson, Pam	(21-2)	02/03/24
	Nelson, Scott	(10-1)	07/27/25
	Supple-Bish, Mary	(18-5)	02/03/24
MEMBERS ABSENT :	Clark, Chris	(13-10)	02/11/24
	Heim, Michael	(16-7)	02/03/24
STAFF PRESENT:	Chuck Kempf, Director Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities Jeff Atkins, Assistant Director Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities Jessica Oshel, Special Events & Communications Coordinator		

Call to Order.

Chairman Chris Clark was absent. Scott Nelson called the meeting to order at 4:05pm.

Welcome New Board Members.

Welcomed new board members Scott Mooney and Eric Montegna.

ITEM #2 - Approval of minutes

Approved

ITEM #3 – Updates:

- a. Park Facility Naming Policy – There is interest in naming a few of the parks that are currently unofficially named. David Cavin put together a general naming policy guideline. A sponsorship naming policy with a sunset was an option, but it might not be the best option. Instead, thinking an application form that gets vetted and approved through the Park Board might help prevent non-serious suggestions. They would need to have justification behind wanting to name the park. These applications would then be sent to board members before the meetings to review for discussion at the monthly meetings. There are typically one 2-3 per year. It is something for the Park Board members to consider. It would allow the process to be simpler and more sophisticated.

Scott Nelson – Would we have to consider all the name suggestions/applications that came in even for the parks and facilities that are already named?

Answer: Yes, this would be largely for naming individual ball fields and gyms. Renaming facilities and parks would be strongly discouraged. Many of the already named places are protected by the deed requirements.

Scott Mooney – What is the naming process now? For example, a new splash pad?

Answer: Typically, it starts as a recommendation of the staff, and the city council has the final say.

- b. Park Tax Updates – All eight committee members showed up to every meeting which is very commendable. The third and fourth night acted as a round table of the members proposing the project, the group vetting it, then voting on finalizing it or not. The round table went on until all the money was spent. It went fairly well. Citizens committee - There are 500-yard signs being placed around town by the citizens committee. There is a Facebook page “Committee to Restore Our Parks.” There are also service club presentations that are being scheduled; if need be, staff will be present to help with information. Trying to look into equipment that will make maintenance guys jobs easier and more efficient.
- c. Hyde Splash Park – It is completed. It will open Friday, July 16th at 4 PM with an opening ceremony. All board members are welcome to come. It will be free admission and open to everyone. The water works on timers, and the gates will be locked when it is closed. The water only runs for a certain length of time, and it only runs when the buttons are activated. There is also dry play equipment within the perimeter that is unique to St. Joe and will help prevent children from running across the roadway.
- d. Missouri Theater CIP Project Update – This is two new restrooms on the main level of the theater. It will be full ADA compliant restrooms. They will be constructed this winter. Designs will match the rest of the theater. Bids have gone out. The theater will remain open for events while construction is happening as it does not affect the open area. This is on the east side. A while back, the roof began to leak in that area, so that will be addressed before restrooms begin renovation. Those bids will go out this week. Because this was not planned, we will adjust some of the lighting money that was already planned. We will save money from the installation portion of the lighting project to allow money for the roof.
- e. Future Trail Maintenance and Construction – The mountain bike community is very good at maintaining the trails already made. However, we need a process for new trails being created. Currently, the requests just come into Chuck or Jeff, but there needs to be a more formal process to prevent any unapproved trails. We would like new trails to be submitted through an application process that includes the request, maps, descriptions, etc., that the Park Board will also be able to approve. Does the board want to be a part of this process before or after it goes through a staff review and before it goes to city council.
 Mary Supple-Bish - Because we do not know a lot of mountain bike trail specifics, we would feel more comfortable with relying on the staff.
 Answer: It would allow more of a citizen’s perspective versus a recreational perspective.
 The trail system and recreation help prevent homeless encampments and other negative/harmful situations. It would be feedback for new trail creations.

ITEM #3 – Upcoming Events

- a. The Liberty Oak Splash Park opens tomorrow July 16, at 4pm.
- b. Park Passports – has gone over very well. There has been a lot of participation, and we had a feature in the MPRA Magazine.
- c. There are still activities happening for the rest of the month for National Parks and Recreation Month at Remington Nature Center, Bode Ice Arena, and the JRP 50+ Activity Center.

ITEM #4 –Open Discussion

- a. Chuck – Fairview Golf Course has seen increased participation which is wonderful.
- b. Disc golf has exploded. The Disc Golf Club does fundraising that helps with maintenance.
- c. Everyone is welcome to send emails with any questions to Chuck or Jeff.

ITEM #5 –Public Comment

No public comments

ITEM #6 - Adjourn

A motion to adjourn meeting, seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, August 19, 2021, 4:00pm** at Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities office, 1920 Grand Avenue.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Jessica Oshel, Special Events and Communications Coordinator