

Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Roll Call:

Members Participating in Person: Trustees: Badger, Eck, Metcalf & Theilen
And President Sgro

Members Participating by Phone: Trustee Schmidt

Members Unavailable: Trustee Beck

Others Participating in Person: Derek Harms, Executive Director; Stephen Flesch, Director of Finance & Administration; Lynn Saputo, Director of Recreation, Staff, public & media

Recreation Committee

Rotary Park Proposal – Springfield Southwest Baseball Association

Todd Hammerlink of the Springfield Southwest Baseball Association proposed converting Rotary Park Ball Diamonds #1 & #3 to artificial turf. SSBA Would pay for all costs. SSBA is request Board consideration for a private funding construction agreement for Rotary Park similar to the previous agreement for Schlitt Park. Staff has a longstanding partnership with SSBA and recommends Board approval.

OSLAD Grant Application

Kiwanis Park Development

The Board welcomed input from the public regarding an OSLAD grant application for the redevelopment of Kiwanis Park in the amount of \$400,000 with the Park District matching the funds for a total project amount of \$800,000. Members of the International Soccer Club, Urban Action Network and Springfield Community attended and spoke in support of the proposed park improvements which could include upgrades to the parking, playground, lighting and soccer fields as well as the addition of walking paths, shelter with restroom facilities and miscellaneous landscaping. Staff will present a resolution at the August Board meeting for the Board's approval to submit a grant application.

OSLAD Grant Application RE: Kiwanis Park / Public Input

Sheila Stocks-Smith, President, Urban Action Network and DeAndre Neal previously worked with a not for profit to promote Kiwanis Park area. They are in support and would be happy to

provide letters of support and share information previously obtained from acquired from surveys and studies. Numerous members of the Springfield International Soccer Club spoke in favor of development, noting: the need for restrooms, playground placement, trees for shade and additional parking. Members of the neighborhood spoke in support of the grant and development of Kiwanis Park. Proposed improvements allow for additional amenities and other programming,

Finance and Personnel Committees

Phone & Internet Services Provider

Stephen Flesch, Director of Finance and Administration informed the Board three quotes were solicited and two received for phone and internet services. Staff recommends staying with current services of Comcast and renew for an additional two-year contract.

STAFF UPDATES

Recreation & Marketing Department

Lynn Saputo, Director of Recreation shared Recreation Department highlights:

- Cox Park Teen Empowerment Zone began July 7th Everett Clemons has been hired as the Program Supervisor and will work with Marty Strieker and Tim Rhodes Wednesdays(morning and afternoon sessions) offering open recreational play with visits from park district areas
- Vet's Pool closed August 8th. Shortage of lifeguards and attracting lifeguards is challenging making it difficult to staff pools for open swim.
- Levitt Amp wrapped up August 5th. Rec Department staff the Fun Zone each Thursday throughout the summer.
- Athletics: St. Louis Cardinals Camp had 100 kids signed up. Sliders season has ended.
- Fall sports are gearing up and will follow all IDPH Indoor Sport COVID protocols
- HRZ: New Zoo Director, Doug Hotle will start Monday, August 16th. 50 Years of Wild 50 anniversary will be held August 24-29 with free days. Free movie night will be August 27th and throwback Dollar Day will be on August 28th sponsored by Henson Robinson Company.
- Lemur/Langur Exhibit: WDM Architects toured the exhibit and will discuss concept and animal are needs with the staff. A draft concept should be received in about a week.

Finance & Personnel Department

Stephen Flesch, Director of Finance & Administration noted the following:

- Fieldwork and audit are complete with no issues. Report to follow.
- Online auction in process for surplus equipment.

Parks & Planning Department

The following items were noted:

- Iles hosted National Night out last week and presented the Park District with a plaque.
- Bergen Playground is done. A ribbon cutting will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks.
- Lincoln Greens overlay project is done.
- Golf course repairs to Bergen and Pasfield have been delayed due to weather.
- Velasco Tennis Center premium court resurfacing will begin after the McDrew.
- Erin' Pavilion Special Agreement for stand along storage building to start next week.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board it was moved that the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

/Joint 8 11 21/