**Park Advisory Commission**

**Meeting Minutes**

*July 22, 2020*

*Frisco Train 1501 and Car 563, Schuman Park*

**Members Present:** Ken Kwantes, Larry Thomas, Susan Wrasmann, Andrew Meggitt, and Mike Fleishhauer

**Absent:** Sue Arnold

**Others Present:** Floyd Jernigan, Park Foreman Simon Yoakum, Marie Crowley, and Julie Rodgers

1. Call to Order

* Ken Kwantes called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

* A motion was made by Susan Wrasmann to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2020, meeting. Andrew Meggitt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

1. Financials
   * Mr. Jernigan presented the financials covering year-to-date differences through June 2020. Revenue has been impacted by COVID-19. Sales tax is down somewhat, but overall the city has not been impacted as was anticipated due to record sales at stores open with essential items such as Walmart and Lowes. Expenses are up due to COVID-19 with the extra cleaning we have had to do. Mr. Butz thinks we will be reimbursed for expenses incurred due to the financial impact of extra man hours from additional cleaning. We haven’t seen a huge impact on SplashZone revenue, even with the 25% capacity limit. There has been very little negative feedback regarding limits due to the virus. It was noted by the Park Director that the pool is the safest place to be considering the temperature, wind, and chlorine. We have three young head guards, but they are doing a good job.

Chairman Kwantes inquired as to where the reimbursement would come from. Mr. Jernigan reported that we have to apply for a federal grant. Reimbursements will be dispersed from the federal government to the counties. Mr. Jernigan told the group we have been tracking manpower and supplies, so we have fairly accurate numbers for our additional expenses. Larry Thomas asked why Current Year-to- Date Maintenance Expenses were $0. Mr. Jernigan explained that it was a line item that is now called Eugene Northern. Mr. Jernigan also noted that, due to COVID uncertainties, we had removed line items that were bigger ticket expenses.

1. Old Business
   * **COVID Update**

City Council removed capacity limits in June. This Monday, they extended current guidelines. We ordered extra dispensers for the parks in anticipation of a certain amount of theft or vandalism. We have had very little theft. We have not put in portable toilets in the parks. Mr. Jernigan noted that Fire Chief Smith reported at CC we had six active cases, one hospitalization, and 56 total cases.

1. New Business

* Discussion of future train usage

Open House on Aug. 4, from 3 – 6 p.m. Ribbon cutting at 4 p.m. We will have interpretive signs and thank you signs, thanking all who contributed. Lettering and measurements are to be stenciled and the glass will be etched. Floors have been redone, seats have been reupholstered, new shades were installed, new paint inside and out, and the whistle and bell were repaired. Nick and his guys took a lot of pride in ownership of the renovation. Don Worth and Cody Allison were consultants for the project. Floyd encouraged all to come by on August 4 and be a part of the Open House.

* Review of proposed budget priorities for new fiscal year

Mr. Jernigan first listed projects already or nearly completed: Frisco Train renovation, disc golf course (tee signage and concrete pads), pickleball courts (nets, stanchions, painting, and fencing), resurfacing and painting at SplashZone (concrete work done by Chris), replaced boiler and pumps (blue pump went out and was replaced and the white pump is going out so we bought a replacement in case it goes out before Labor Day) at SplashZone, Coventry playground was replaced in the spring, replaced the mechanical batting cages with coach-pitch cages, laser leveled the ballfields in the complex. Emphasis has been on the General Fund. We have a wish list but we took off the bigger ticket items with the uncertainty of the effect of COVID-19 on revenue and taxes. We plan to laser level all six fields next year, to include Green Acres and Schumann. Next park projected for improvement is BerJuan, at a proposed budget of $150,000. We delayed Larry Wilson Ballfield, Larry May Park, cemetery roads, ice machine, two mowers, two trucks (ours are 2009 and 2010), ballfield equipment. We have been replacing culverts in the cemetery for the overlay, which is a citywide project. Larry Thomas asked if the management company could also manage SplashZone. Mr. Jernigan said it is uncertain if Power Wellness would be interested in that type of venue. They will not be a City of Rolla entity and will employ their own staff. That could make it problematic to try to share Lifeguards and concession workers between the two facilities.

Mr. Kwantes suggested the biggest bang would be to upgrade the biggest and premier park in Rolla and then the other parks will follow. Mr. Kwantes said today’s citizens voted for the tax to be utilized as we receive it. A motion was made by Mike Fleishhauer to approve the renovation of BerJuan playground. Andrew Meggitt seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

1. Commission comments

* Chairman Kwantes asked about trees. Parks Director Jernigan said we applied to be a tree city and deferred to Mike Fleishhauer who told the group the city’s application for Tree City USA status had been approved. A presentation will be made at a future City Council meeting.
* Mr. Jernigan said the city had applied for a TRIM Grant. The status of that is pending. If approved, the grant would involve an inventory of trees.
* Larry Thomas asked if the dog park is being used. Simon Yoakum, Park Foreman, said that it is being used, but typically not in the heat of the day.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Kwantes, seconded by Andrew Meggitt.

1. Adjournment

* The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Julie Rodgers, Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant.