



Office of the Recreation Manager

Meeting Agenda
Parks and Recreation Committee
September 10th, 2020
3:30pm
804 S Park, Shawnee, OK 74801

Committee Members	Present	Absent
Bob Weaver (Commissioner Seat)	X	
Chad Payn	X	
Sue Winterringer	X	
Staff Members		
James Bryce		X
Kerri Foster	X	
Cody Ellis	X	
Clint Bowen	X	

AGENDA NO 1 Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 3:32pm by Bob Weaver.

AGENDA NO 2 Roll call and Declaration of a Quorum

AGENDA NO 3 Discussion of new committee member and chairman

Discussion of Lynn Gray resignation and the new seat open from Bob Weaver becoming a commissioner and Ed Bolt Mayor. Bob Weaver was declared the City Commissioner Seat at last commission meeting. A new Chair is to be determined as Bob Weaver was the Chair.

AGENDA NO 4 Discussion and Review of Park Tour

There was much discussion on the Parks Tour from July. A common response was that Shawnee has many more parks than what they realized. Many small and large green spaces, beautiful locations and with many outdated parks. During the tour, it was recognized that a citizen was working on landscaping. It was great to see the local community assisting in taking pride in their neighborhood park.

A suggestion from Chad Payn to work towards connecting city parks together with a paved trail for families. Since Shawnee has such an abundance of parks, finding a way to tie them together would be a costly, but worthy improvement.

Looking at each park overall, the parks have an old, forgotten feel. Most playground equipment appears to be a liability. Bob Weaver asked if there was any discussion of the city selling vacant lots or poorly maintained land. Cody Ellis shared that the Parks Department split the town into sections with 2 crews that held 4-6 employees each. With the low staffing, maintenance is a struggle to not only maintain the amount of land, but just to keep it safe. Selling unwanted areas would lower the cost of maintenance and increase the amount of time in the parks and areas that need more attention.

Discussion and recognition was made about the Rotary Club acquiring a grant and had installed Bike Racks at 5 Parks. The following parks had new bike racks installed: Boy Scout, Optimist, Mihura, Weigant, and Lions Club.

AGENDA NO 5 Review and Recommendations of Park Design Plans

The attached park designs were reviewed and suggestions were made by the committee:

Woodland Park

Look to add restrooms to both sides of park.

Asked to have input/communication on Blue Zones involvement with the project.

Discussion was brought to the committee by Commissioner Bob Weaver. He shared that the Avedis Foundation, whom funds Blue Zones, would donate funds to the City project to complete Blue Zones Marquee Project. Details were unclear on what capacity the involvement would be. Discussion and suggestion to ensure the committee and city staff were involved in the discussion on the involvement of this entity and the project plans.

Kids Space

Look to add restrooms on the north side of the park by the courts and skate park.

Add additional parking on the north side if possible.

Lighting on the East side

Link the walking trail with new sidewalk coming from the North.

Zip line on the North East side.

Requests for the front were to have a staff person hired to work weekends to check out equipment to help with parties and events.

Discussion was made on how the upkeep would be managed for these projects long-term. Upkeep and programming would be a prominent need for maintaining the image of the department. Cody Ellis shared that current staff is taxed with what they currently have for ground maintenance. Kerri Foster shared that her facility program coordinator position has not been filled for a couple years. Chad Payn asked a question to propose a request to Blue Zones or Avedis Foundation to supply a trust fund for the Department to have a dedicated source of funding each year so the department does not rely solely on tax revenue for maintenance and programming.

The group discussed the priority of ground breaking on the park projects and spoke to the current risk of liability at Kids Space Park. Due to the high liability of dilapidated equipment, starting on that particular park first would be ideal. Committee also discussed that starting on both projects together would be best as it would more than likely cut costs.

AGENDA NO 6 Staff Updates

Kerri Foster presented updates for Department participation. A summary of Shawnee Splash attendance was given. She shared that they maintained a 50% capacity throughout the season to increase distancing. The 2020 season had 18,232 visits. Splash normally sees around 33,000 patron visits each season. The Splash opened two and a half weeks late into the season. Kerri shared that these numbers were good with those considerations being just a little over half of normal. Attendance each day seem to reflect the day to day COVID-19 reports from the Health Department as patrons seemed to limit exposure. Splash hosted 59 birthday parties. Normally, Splash hosts around 100. Kerri reported that the Senior Recreation Center is still seeing a lower attendance since COVID. Although, groups are starting to return in small numbers. Our Recreation Dance program is full attendance.

Question was asked by Bob Weaver on the community center basketball goal net missing. Cody Ellis explained the difficulty in maintaining nets on all basketball hoops throughout the parks. Citizens steal nets and the parks department must keep a supply to replace on a constant basis.

Kerri Foster explained that the department is acquiring quotes and feedback from companies to paint outdoor pickleball lines on the basketball court down at the community center on 804 S Park.

AGENDA NO 7 Discussion Community Partnerships at Recreation Facilities

Meeting was adjourned item was not discussed, this agenda item will be placed on next months agenda.

Adjournment: Sue Winterringer moved to adjourn, 2nd Bob Weaver. 5:04pm Adjourned

Date 10-8-20

Chairman Chad Payn