

Pullman Parks & Recreation Commission

MINUTES: October 19, 2016

Mick Nazerali called the special meeting of the Pullman Parks & Recreation Commission to order at 6:30PM. Additional members present included Kelly Forsyth, Lynda Hamilton, Carole Johnson, and Rod Schwartz. Staff members present were: Alan Davis, Kurt Dahmen, and Kristin Lincoln (recorder).

AGENDA/MINUTES:

- A. **MOTION:** Lynda Hamilton made a motion to adopt the agenda for the October 20, 2016 special meeting; Carole Johnson seconded. Passed unanimously.
- B. **MOTION:** Lynda Hamilton made a motion to adopt the agenda for the October 20, 2016 special meeting; Carole Johnson seconded. Passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. None

REPORTS:

- A. **Parks Report:** (Appendix A: 10-19-16)
 - Alan Davis reported the following:
 - a. The Crew has been busy preparing and maintaining the ball fields for fall sports.
 - b. Improvements were completed along stadium way. Crew removed juniper plants and added mulch and gravel along the south side. The Northside will be completed next year.
 - c. Pruning projects were completed throughout the city mostly around street signs and bus routes. Mackenzie St. behind the Police Station was also cleared out.
 - d. The end of the summer brought numerous issues with wasps in the parks and trails.
 - e. Graffiti cleanup was minimal.
 - f. Litter runs along Davis way, Hwy 27 and SR 270 were completed with the help of volunteers from the Pullman Christian School.
 - g. The crew did some cleanup of freezers, tv's and couches from the return of students. Crew also did cleanup of burned furniture from fires made after football games.
 - h. A "new generation" swing that allows for adults and children to use at the same time was installed at the Harrison Tot Lot.
 - i. Minor repairs were completed at the Pullman Aquatic and Fitness Center.
 - j. Field projects were completed at Quann and Thatuna.
 - k. Had an emergency in the lap pool at Reaney. There was a problem with the Hydrostatic valves that resulted in a major leak. They have been inspected and rebuilt.
 - l. New fence sections were added at the entrance to City Cemetery at the request of the cemetery committee to help in their fundraising effort to purchase more fencing.
 - m. There has been no news regarding the bypass alignment that is holding up the Marys Park project. Alan expects to receive soon and will inform the committee of any updates.
 - n. An access road south of the large pond at Sunnyside is being developed so the surrounding property owners do not need to cross over the newly donated McCloskey land.
 - o. WSU has approached the city regarding a possible "Design-Build" project to be constructed through the school of Design & Construction. It was suggested they design a project that is open (an example given was a gazebo type structure) that would be placed at either Spring

St. Park or Mary's park. It was also suggested that the project be constructed so that it was moveable.

- p. The Boy Scouts completed removal of volunteer aspen from Lawson Gardens and on some private property. They also completed the renovation of the Conservation Park pergola after working on it almost a year. Other Scout projects completed include the extension of the Itani Linear Path into Sunnyside and the rebuilding of the soccer boxes.

B. Recreation Report – Pioneer Center (Appendix B: 10-19-16)

Kurt Dahmen reported the following:

- a. Recreation had a good summer overall with enrollment in the preschool summer camps in the low 20's. Adult programs were also successful and the rafting trips doing very well.
- b. Movies in the park did not do as many nights as before but were successful.
- c. There were six (6) Concerts in the Park with good turnout.
- d. The Lentil Festival 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament had 31 teams, which is about the max that the tournament could handle.
- e. Fall co-ed softball with the Moscow Parks and Recreation department is wrapping up with one more game to play.
- f. The RV park was busy in July and again in September with the football season starting.
- g. Fall Youth Sports had good enrollment
- h. Preschool's enrollment is full. They are still operating with one classroom with 16 children in the Monday/Wednesday/Friday classes and the Tuesday/Thursday morning class and 10 in the Tuesday/Thursday afternoon class.
- i. Tennis had full enrollment this fall.
- j. Fitness classes started up again in September and has good enrollment.

C. Recreation Report - Senior Center Report (Appendix C: 10-19-16)

Kurt Dahmen reported the following:

- a. There were a number of trips in the last few months for the seniors including the Peach Festival, Steve's annual BBQ, and an overnight trip to Vancouver in September which was a joint trip with the Hillard Senior Center in Spokane.
- b. Steve continues to work with Hillard for trips as it's a good deal for both groups to help fill buses.

D. Aquatics Report (Appendix D: 10-19-16)

Kurt Dahmen reported the following:

- a. Membership during the months of July and August were up from last year. Daily dropins were down, but expected with the opening of Reaney pool.
- b. September was the annual 50% off sale for Aquatic memberships. Sales were up 66% over last year. Biggest gain in membership sales were in senior memberships.
- c. Warm water exercise class is very popular.
- d. The summer months were hectic with two facilities open but have become more manageable since Reaney closed for the season.

E. Reaney Report (Memo distributed during meeting)

Kurt Dahmen reported the following:

- a. Data from this year was compared to 2014 as the pool was not open in 2015. It was also noted that the pool opened 12 days late in 2014 making the comparison a little difficult.
- b. 2016 was the first summer open with the Splash Pad. There were over 9,000 visits to Reaney compared to 7,000 visits in 2014.
- c. Point of sales entries were increased by 485 visits compared to 2014.

- d. Weather was not ideal for outdoor pool usage. The weather statewide was not typical.
- e. Area daycares visited the pool on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Approximately 1700 kids.
- f. Revenue was around \$41,000. \$10,000 increase from 2014.
- g. Retail sales of water, juice, cookies, etc. introduced this year brought in \$1,900.
- h. Rental sales were down.
- i. Compared to the last six (6) years, 2016 was a good year..
- j. Expenditures were around \$110,000 for 2016.
- k. There was a lot of clean-up of the pool after it had been empty for so long due to the remodel.
- l. Had added an additional staff member but ended up not needing to fill it.
- m. Utilities were up from 2014, due to the addition of the splash pad, the pool being open longer this year (Including staying open a week later than in previous years), and the installation of a newer and more accurate meter.
- n. In all, Reaney had a successful summer and the splash pad has made a nice addition.

Lynda Hamilton asked if there were any concerns about the amount of shade around the pool and splash pad, adding that additional shaded areas would be welcome especially for families with young children using the splash pad. Kurt answered that he had not heard any complaints but finding ways of adding more shade could be looked into.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Bond Issue Projects (Appendix E: 10-19-16)

Kurt Dahmen reported the following:

- a. Mark Workman presented the list of projects recommended by the Commission to the City Council after adjusting the figures.
- b. There did not seem to be any concern from the Council over the list but Kurt expects there to be a lot of future discussion before the final list for the Bond is created. A trail component and sidewalk repairs will probably also be included in the final list.
- c. Council was also positive regarding adding the purchase of the Encounter Ministries building and there has been an MOU signed stating that if the purchasing of the building is included in on the ballot, and the bond is approved, the city would purchase the building.
- d. The commission discussed if there was, or would be, a community group that would advocate for the passing of the Bond. Concern was raised that voters may not want to vote for additional tax dollars for the purchase of the building as they have recently seen increases due to a new elementary and the remodels of school buildings but that hopefully an outside group would be successful in educating the public on the value the Bond projects, and the purchasing of the Encounter Ministries building in particular, would be to the community.
- e. More meetings and discussions will be held regarding the bond projects throughout the year.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Bike and Pedestrian Counters (Appendix F: 10-19-16)

- a. Mark workman is looking for an endorsement from the commission to have bike and pedestrian counters placed at three (3) locations along the trail system in Pullman.
- b. WSDOT will cover most of the cost of the counters. The city would only be responsible for the batteries and collecting the Data. Total cost to the city would be approximately \$2,500 to \$3,000.
- c. Endorsement is recommended by both Mark Workman and Alan.

- d. **MOTION:** Rod Schwartz made a motion to endorse adding the bike and pedestrian counters to the path system; Seconded by Carole Johnson. Passed unanimously.

B. War Memorial (Appendix G: 10-19-16)

- a. The Cemetery Committee is looking to have a veteran's memorial that honors all veterans built next to the City Cemetery. The property that it would be placed on is not currently city property but there are discussions with the current property owner regarding donation. There are also others willing to donate to ensure the memorial is built.
- b. Currently the information presented is just an FYI; once the location has been secured there will be more discussions with both the Commission and the City Council.

C. Recreation Fees (Fee Schedule distributed during meeting)

- a. Kurt Dahmen presented a proposed 2017 Pullman Parks and Recreation Primary Program and Facility Use and Fee Schedule. The only proposed changes include a \$5 increase to the youth sports program fees, a decrease from \$5.30 per lane per/hour for Swim Clubs at the PAFC to \$4.80 per lane hour, and adding free PAFC admission to the PHS swim team athletes during their season outside of their practice times.
- b. The Commission discussed the change to the youth sports program fees and expressed concern over raising the price for the families with young children but was comfortable with the increase for middle school soccer as they get more field time.
- c. Kurt explained the decrease in the Lane fee for the swim clubs was because when the price increased in 2012 it created a hardship for the clubs and their use of the pool does not increase costs.
- d. The commission also discussed being in favor of allowing the PHS swim team to practice in the pool outside of practice times.
- e. **MOTION:** Rod Schwartz made a motion to accept the fee schedule; Seconded by Lynda Hamilton. Passed unanimously.

D. 2017 Budget

- a. Kurt Dahmen reported that the 2017 budget will include funding for Mary's Park and Emerald Point but will not include an additional staff person. No other changes have been made regarding the budget.
- b. Projected revenue is healthy but the recommendation is to put major capital on hold until later in the year and that departments should operate on the status quo.

ADJOURNMENT:

- A. MOTION:** Mick Nazerali adjourned the meeting at 7:33 PM.

Mick Nazerali
Chairperson

Kurt Dahmen
Recreation Manager

Alan Davis
Parks Manager