



Pullman Parks & Recreation Commission

MINUTES: January 10, 2018

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

AGENDA/MINUTES:

- A. **MOTION:** Rod Schwartz made a motion to adopt the agenda for the January 10, 2018 meeting; Becky Dueben seconded. Passed unanimously.
- B. **MOTION:** Rod Schwartz made a motion to adopt the minutes from the October 11, 2018 meeting; Becky Dueben seconded. Passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. None

REPORTS:

A. Parks Report: (Appendix A: 1-10-18)

Alan Davis presented the Parks Report and highlighted the following:

- a) Staff put in 450 man hours on leaf removal
- b) Holiday lights have been turned off except the trees and bridge which will stay on through MLK day.
- c) Restrooms and irrigation systems have been shut down and winterized.
- d) The RV park water has been shutoff but is still open for dry camping.
- e) Staff addressed a number of tree removals, including problems on Bishop and Grand.
- f) Picnic tables in the shelters were cabled and will be refurbished during the winter.
- g) Staff is working on inventories of equipment and supplies for the mechanic's shop, woodshop and plumbing rooms.
- h) Staff cleaned up vandalism near the Sunnyside Park upper restrooms.
- i) Mulch was replaced at Harrison Tot Lot, Terre View and McGee playgrounds.
- j) The shade structure at Harrison Tot Lot was removed and stored for the summer.
- k) The Bowman Feld bleachers were repaired.
- l) Staff worked with the school district to address irrigation problems brought on by a dugout project they were working on.
- m) A car accident at the city Cemetery caused some damage to a retaining wall.
- n) The Mary's Park Mitigation Discussion Report is currently under review by the Planning Department and the WSU LA 367 class is working on a mitigation garden with paths and interpretive signage that could be installed should Proposition 2 pass.

- o) In the spring, the staff will continue work on the north end Entrance sign.
- p) Our City Attorney is reviewing the contract and work proposal for the Phoenix Conservancy's plan for Conservation Park.

Becky asked if there were any updates regarding the homeless population in Pullman. Alan answered that the police have trespassed a few people from city property, but it seems most have moved out of the area. Currently there are no issues in the city parks.

B. Recreation Report – Pioneer Center: (Appendix B: 1-10-18)

Kurt Dahmen presented the Recreation Report regarding the Pioneer Center activities and highlighted the following:

- a) Preschool numbers remain strong with all classes at max enrollment.
- b) In October we held the annual Care-to-Share Fun Run. Day of registration was down from previous years due to the weather.
- c) The RV park remained busy throughout the WSU Football season. The fee was raised at the start of the year to \$30/night. It's estimated this rate increase will result in a revenue increase of \$11,000.
- d) In November and December, staff wrapped up fall programming.
- e) K-1 basketball enrollment was up slightly from last year.

C. Recreation Report – Senior Center: (Appendix C: 1-10-18)

Kurt Dahmen presented the Recreation Report regarding the Senior Center activities and highlighted the following:

- a) Senior Center has been busy the last few months with trips and activities including a trip to Ritzville, a scenic train ride, Christmas lights tour and bunko. Additionally, the preschool children visited and sang holiday music to the members.
- b) Holiday Bizarre was held. Attendance was down slightly from last year but overall it was successful.
- c) Steve will be retiring in June. Recruitment for the Senior Center Coordinator position will begin in the spring.

D. Recreation Report – Aquatics Center: (Appendix D: 1-10-18)

Kurt Dahmen presented the Recreation Report regarding the Aquatics Center activities and highlighted the following:

- a) Swim lessons were down at the end of the year. Staff will be looking into reasons why enrollment had decreased, although it seems to be an issue with other organizations as well.
- b) Membership sales have increased since the new fees were introduced.

OLD BUSINESS: (Appendix E: 1-10-18)

The commission revisited the discussion regarding the possibility of recommending a non-smoking / tobacco free ordinance in the parks. Alan recommended considering a policy that would implement the state 25 foot rule to all park shelters and restroom facilities within the park. The commission discussed how signage would be placed and if the policy would include all forms of tobacco use including chewing tobacco and/or e-cigarettes. Alan also explained that

there does not seem to be a major problem at this time as there have not been complaints nor have the staff had an increase in cleanup from tobacco use. The Commission also discussed the possibility of the policy only being an event based ban (i.e. 4th of July, concerts in the park). The Commission decided to table the conversation until next meeting while the options were being considered by individual members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kurt updated the Commission on the status of Prop 1 and 2. While the city felt the number of votes needed to pass the bond measures had been reached, there were questions raised by some officials at the county level regarding voter turnout levels. Both bonds had more than enough yes votes to meet the super majority threshold (Prop 1 had 63% yes votes and Prop 2 had 73% yes votes). However, because of the uncertainty raised regarding the overall turnout numbers, the City Council made the decision to re-run the bond measures as a special election on February 13th.

ADJOURNMENT:

- A. **MOTION:** Lynda Hamilton made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Rod Schwartz seconded. Passed unanimously.
- A. Mick Nazerali adjourned the meeting at 7:15pm.

Mick Nazerali
Chairperson

Rod Schwartz for M.N.

Kurt Dahmen
Recreation Manager

Alan Davis
Parks Manager