Bryant Parks Committee Meeting
May 14, 2024 - 6:00 PM
Bishop Park Administration Building
6401 Boone Rd. Bryant, Arkansas

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Call to Order - Richard McKeown at 6:00 PM

Committee Members Present - Richard McKeown, Jennifer Benning, Cody Crist, Renee Curtis, Lynn Farmer, Amanda Jolly, Drew Martin

Committee Members Absent - Jason Whittington

Others Present - Parks Director Keith Cox, IT Director Gordon Miller, Center Superintendent Ebonee Scott, Grants Coordinator Rebecca Kidder, Crystal Baker with Salt County Lacrosse and Council Members Star Henson and Jack Moseley

McKeown thanks everyone for the work that went into the Master Plan and expresses the excitement of having it adopted and now being able to work towards implementation when funds become available.

Approval of Minutes

1. **March 12 Regular Parks Committee Meeting**

Motion to approve by Crist, seconded by Martin. Motion carried.

2. **April 23 Special Parks Committee Meeting**

Motion to approve by Farmer, seconded by Curtis. Motion carried.

Associations/Club Reports

Director's Report

3. **Parks April Summary**

Cox presents the April Summary of actions and accomplishments for the Parks Department and highlights a few items from that list.

4. **Youth Basketball Report**

Cox introduces Center Superintendent Ebonee Scott to present on the Bryant Parks Youth Basketball League. Scott gave thanks to the volunteer coaches and to the Bryant School District for making the league possible. The league has seen major growth during the past few seasons to the point now where we are limited by the spacing that we have available and unable to continue to grow. Cox stated that some of the league challenges he would like to address during

a later agenda item and commended Scott on the work she has done to make the league so successful. The Committee gave positive feedback on the league, especially the quality of the uniforms. The Department will also be looking into ways to potentially offer a scholarship program for future programs.

Cox informed the Committee that he will be taking a job description change to City Council at the end of the month to restructure a position towards a programming focus to find growth opportunities for current and future programs.

Public Comments

Old Business

New Business

5. **Creation of Basketball Sustainability Special Sub-Committee**

Cox asks for the formation of a sub-committee to focus on the sustainability of the basketball program. McKeown appoints Cody Crist, Lynn Farmer and Amanda Jolly to said subcommittee. He requested that the subcommittee also consider developing conduct expectations for coaches, participants and officials for all programming, activities and competitive events taking place throughout all parks facilities.

Motion to appoint basketball sustainability sub-committee of Crist, Farmer and Jolly by Martin, seconded by Benning. Motion passes.

6. **Equipment to be sold on GovDeals**

Cox asks for a recommendation to take to Council permission to auction off a list of old and no longer used equipment that was attached in the agenda.

Motion to recommend old equipment to be sent to auction by Jolly, seconded by Farmer. Motion passes.

7. **Pickleball Courts**

Cox opens discussion regarding whether to allow reservations at Mills Park pickleball courts. It is decided at this time to continue to offer the courts on a first come first serve basis but Parks will add signage onto the courts to promote the reservation of indoor courts at Bishop Park.

8. **Lacrosse Field Dedication**

Cox asks to dedicate the multipurpose field at Alcoa 40 Park to be named the Campbell Lacrosse Field, home of Salt County Lacrosse. Crystal Baker with Salt County Lacrosse spoke about the current state of the program and the planned investment in the field and the growth of the program.

Motion to recommend the dedication of the field by Martin, seconded by Crist. Motion passes.

9. **ArDOT TAP Grant**

Grants Coordinator Rebecca Kidder presents the details of the ArDOT TAP Grant to light the sidewalks at Bishop Park due to safety concerns.

Motion to recommend City Council to approve funding for the ArDOT TAP Grant if received by Curtis, seconded by Crist. Motion passes.

Committee Comments

Crist requests the Department to come back to the June meeting with a quote on a cover for Mills Park Pool.

Crist also requests that we have associations and clubs come in and give an annual report. Cox is going to work on putting together a yearly calendar of reports.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Crist, seconded by Curtis. Motion carried.