Bryant Parks Committee

Bishop Park Administration Building - Conference Room

Date: June 10, 2025 - **Time:** 6:00 PM

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes

1. May 13 Parks Committee Meeting

- Minutes-ParksCommittee-May2025.pdf

Associations / Club Reports

2. Central Arkansas Soccer Club Annual Report - Presented by Jim Anderson, CASC President

Director's Report

3. Parks Monthly Report

- Parks Directors Report - June25.pdf

Public Comments

Old Business

New Business

Parks and Recreation

4. Energy Savings Performance Contracting Grant - Presented by Rebecca Kidder, Grants Coordinator

5. Arkansas Community Assistance Grant Program - Presented by Rebecca Kidder, Grants Coordinator

6. Request to change the location for the July Parks Committee Meeting

Committee Comments

Adjournments

Bryant Parks Committee Meeting
May 13, 2025 - 6:00 PM
Bishop Park Administration Building
6401 Boone Rd. Bryant, Arkansas

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Call to Order - Amanda Jolly at 6:00 PM

Committee Members Present - Amanda Jolly, Renee Curtis, Lynn Farmer, Drew Martin, Chera Moore, Jason Whittington and Jennifer Benning.

Others Present - Parks Director Keith Cox, Parks Assistant Director Matt Martin, IT Support Technician Philip Plouch, City Councilmen Jon Martin and Jack Mosely and Chrystal and Adam Baker with Salt County Lacrosse.

Approval of Minutes

1. **March 11 Parks Committee Meeting**

Motion to approve by D. Martin, seconded by Curtis. Motion carried.

Finance Reports

2. **Parks Department Quarterly Finance Report**

Cox gives the 1st Quarter Finance Report showing revenues and expenses for January through March 2025. Revenues have come in 2% less than the budgeted amount for 3 months, but Cox mentioned that the first quarter is usually the slowest quarter of the year. Expenses were right in line with what was budgeted for the first quarter.

Discussions took place regarding possible ways to increase memberships revenues.

Associations/Club Reports

3. **Salt Country Lacrosse Annual Report**

Chrystal and Adam Baker present on Salt County Lacrosse, founded in 2023 and currently practices and plays home games at Alcoa 40 Park. They started with a high school girls and boys program, which have both made the state playoffs the last two years, and they now include a youth program. They summarized the accomplishments of the program and the facilities since their inception and also discussed the immediate needs for field expansion and new lights on the game field. Salt County Lacrosse has contributed over $30,000 and 800 volunteer hours in facility upgrades.

Discussion followed as it pertains to the immediate needs, mostly on upgraded lighting estimated at $200,000. D. Martin asked if it was possible to move parts from the softball lights over to fix the lacrosse lights currently out; Cox and A. Baker both said they have been looking at the possibility of that with no solutions so far.

Director's Report

4. **Parks Department Monthly Summary**

Cox presents the summary of actions and activities since the last Committee meeting and highlights Aquatics Coordinator Compassion Moomey receiving the Adaptive Swim Whisperer Certification through Swim Angelfish and thanked the Tyler Dannaway foundation for sponsoring her through that process.

Farmer asked how registration was going on the new Summer programming; Cox said that pickleball has been very successful but some of the other programs are having a harder time gaining traction.

Public Comments

There were no Public Comments

Old Business

5. **Bryant Parks Advertising Plan**

Cox presents the Advertising Plan and discusses briefly the ways that the Department will be promoting that plan in the coming weeks. Cox reiterates to the Committee that this is not only opportunities for added revenues for the Department but also opportunities for local businesses to help get their name out.

New Business

6. **Considering of Passing Credit Card Fees along to the Consumer**

Cox asks for support to consider implementing policies to pass credit card fees along to the consumer. He also mentions that other city departments, including water billing, are planning to start passing those along as well. He said that the Department spent around $12,500 last year on credit card fees. He said that if this passes this month, there would still be a process for that transition and at this time does not have a set timeline for when that would be implemented or what the fees would be.

Motion to recommend passing along credit card fees by Curtis, seconded by Benning. Motion passes.

Committee Comments

D. Martin expressed his appreciation for the Parks Tour on May 7, including the handouts for future planning at each park from the Master Plan. Cox credited Community Outreach and Engagement Coordinator Cassie Henry-Saorrono for creating the handouts and thanked the Bryant Youth Association for donating their van for the tour.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Farmer, seconded by D. Martin. Motion carried.

Bryant Parks and Recreation
Director's Report
June 2025

- Youth Volleyball lessons ran through the month of May at the Center.
- High School Tennis Bootcamp was conducted throughout the month of May at the Joyce Boswell courts at Mills Park.
- The Center hosted a Hoop Play Basketball tournament on May 10.
- Bishop Park Softball Complex hosted a FASA Softball tournament on May 10.
- The Barracudas Swim Team started practicing at Bishop Park Aquatic Center on May 19.
- Lifeguard certification classes were held on May 12-18 and June 3-6.
- A Mills Pool Orientation/In-Service was held on May 21.
- Evening Pickleball League wrapped up on May 22.
- The Center hosted a blood drive on May 22 in partnership with Arkansas Blood Institute.
- Mills Pools opened for the Summer on May 24.
- Bishop Park Baseball Complex hosted a 2D Baseball tournament on May 24 - May 25.
- Bishop Park Softball Complex hosted a USA Softball tournament on May 31.
- The Center hosted a Hoop Play Basketball tournament on May 31 - June 1.
- Bishop Park Splash Pad delayed opening due to mechanical issues.
- Continuing to rebuild fields A1, B1, C4, D2 and D3 at Bishop Park. This includes adding clay to the low spots and then leveling with SAF coat. This will have to be done multiple times after settling occurs before the fields will be back to the resiliency they were before the flood in April.
- A new Smith Machine and Bumper Plates were added to the Center Weight Room.
- A new Recumbent Bike was added to the Center Cardio Room.
- Bishop Park Baseball Complex hosted a Bryant Hornet Baseball Camp on June 4 - June 5
- The Joyce Boswell Courts at Mills Park will be used by Bryant High School Tennis twice a week in June while their courts on campus are under construction.
- Registration is open for Youth Tennis Summer Camp at the Joyce Boswell Courts at Mills Park held on June 16 - June 19.
- Registration is open for Intro to Adult Tennis at the Joyce Boswell Courts at Mills Park that will take place July 10 - August 14th
- Registration is open for Evening Pickleball league at the Joyce Boswell Courts at Mills Park that will take place June 9 - July 28.

Bryant Parks and Recreation
Director's Report
June 2025

- Registration is open for Pickleball Power Morning league in the Center Gymnasium that will take place June 9 - July 28.
- Registration is open for Nintendo Switch Bowling league that will take place at The Center July 9 - July 31.
- Registration is open for Adult Dodgeball that will take place July 10 - August 7th at The Center.
- Registration is open for Youth Basketball Camps that will take place throughout the Summer at The Center.
- Registration is open for Youth Archery Lessons that will take place throughout the Summer at Bishop Park.
- Registration is open for Summer Swim lessons at Bishop and Mills pools.