

Park Board Advisory Meeting

April 12, 2021 – 6:30

Minutes

Board Members Present: Sydney Allen (ZOOM), Patrick Shourd, Renee Endicott, Loey Knapp, Vicki Motley

Visitors: Bobby Sonsteng, Brandon Dewey, John Munk and Victoria Howell

Approval of Minutes: Loey Knapp moved to accept the minutes from the 7-20-20 meeting, Patrick Shourd 2nd. Motion passed.

Unfinished Business: none

New Business:

- a. Renovations to Father Ravalli Park – Bobby listed the different problems: swings, basketball nets, 2 benches, sign @ the North end, hole in the fence by the car wash, exposed wires, gates completed so that kids won't run out into the road, bike rack and more benches.
 - a. 2020 small slide was removed, large slide is having problems. Corkscrew has been taken out, and there are 8 bolts that are popping through. Bobby has filed them down to the best of his ability. Hole into the car wash has been repaired, but it gets cut. Bobby suggested doing a little kids climbing wall. Add 2 picnic tables, 1 begin ADA friendly. New garbage cans @ \$400. The 90 ft stretch of fence that borders the park is rotting. Bobby has contacted the owner, and he says it's about \$6K to replace, swings are okay, they just need some paint. Grants for Dog Park – South side of park, run a sideway that connect to Main St. One Dog Park Grant that they are pursuing is the AARP one. Play structures run from \$11K to \$14K. Parks & Rec Director and the Mayor are asking for \$25K from the Jean Thomas Fund to pay for these upgrades. Loey asked how much money was in the fund. Brandon Dewey stated that there was \$75K. Loey asked if there were other projects, Bobby said YES. The property owner with the chain link fence wants the hole fixed. The climbing wall would be 6-8 ft. Patrick Shourd moved to make a recommendation to the Town Council to spend \$25K from the Jean Thomas Fund for a new play structure at Father Ravalli Park. Loey Knapp 2nd. Motion passed.
 - b. Contribution to the Splash Pad Project @ Lewis & Clark Park – the Civic Club/Splash Deck Committee are asking for \$25K from the Jean Thomas Fund to go towards the new Splash Deck at Lewis & Clark Park. This would be to have a recirculating pump in the splash deck so that it would be a better use of the water in the town. This pump would pay for itself in 4 years. The entire project will cost around \$145K. This project jumped from \$78K to \$145K due to the fact that it was a preliminary number. Victoria Howell stated that \$30K had been raised so far. Jean Thomas' name would be put on it. Patrick Shourd made a

motion to recommend to the Town Council to spend \$25K towards the recirculation pump on the Splash Pad, Sydney Allen 2nd. Motion passed.

- c. Lewis & Clark Park Entrance Sign - in the last wind storm, the sign did not fair so well. A new sign from the Amish Beam plant - 4 ply 2x8 solid beam, 35ft header, 24 ft sides Ranch style entry \$1000. \$400-\$1000 signage that would come out of next years budget. Arch way will incorporate the Old Sign. Donated time for design. Vicki mentioned Lindsay & Nathan Bean & Renee also suggested Shawn McGrath. 2 way entry way would be better to facilitate, better access. Avoid the gate it is too narrow.
- d. Parks & Rec. Programming – Bobby stated that he had some good ideas for up to 8 weeks. He is working on funding 5 hr/day. Bobby is looking @ Outdoor Alliance Curriculum; this would help fill a void. Bobby will need help with facilitation – teachers, counselors, etc. He is looking at the American Rescue funding for this year, but doesn't know if its sustainable in the future. Some funding from fees charged. Website Designer & Registration System – Loey will get with Bobby on names. He will be relying on teachers to do this program, and also utilize HS students to monitor kids.
- e. Creamery Park Issues – Loey stated that you can't sit at the tables, it's no maintained, and uninviting. There are also some individuals that are making the use of the park uninviting. These individuals are not doing anything vandalism, they are compliant, but they're there all day. The police have been notified about this issue. Maybe clean up during Clean-Up Day. It was also discussed partnering with Mission Bistro about cost sharing the tables. We need to replace the tables. Brandon said that there were not funds allocated for tables, but both Vicki and Patrick recalled the Town Council authorizing \$5K from the Jean Thomas Funds to do the tables. Patrick likes having a sign. It could be Tobacco Free in Creamery Garden Park. It was stated that it would need to be ALL parks, not just Creamery. Loey would like to see the park used more efficiently. They could have Library Readings, Spinning Demonstrations, etc.
- f. Election of 2021 Park Board Officers:
 - President – Sydney Allen
 - Vice President – Renee Endicott
 - Secretary – Vicki Motley

Loey Knapp moved to accept the slate of officers, Patrick Shourd 2nd. Motion passed.

Director's Report:

- Bobby reported that HDR is helping with the swimming pool, they should come back again next week. The Kiddie Pool needs to have the voids filled and make repairs. Reasonable \$ for the fixes. Not maxing out the capacity. Still useful.
- Bobby has completed his Certified Pool Training

- Community Clean Up Day – May 1, 2021 @ 9am to 1pm, meet at Lewis & Clark Park. Park there and then disperse. Bobby will have project lists available when they arrive. This would be good for any of our Foreign Exchange Students, as they need Community Service.
 - Triangles in gardens
 - Creamery Garden Park
 - Bobby will reach out to the Garden Club to find out where the drains are so they can be filled weekly to keep plants growing.
 - River Park – thank you to the good Samaritan that cuts up the downed trees.
- Other:
 - Loey talked about the need to have a group lead the Scarecrow Festival. She would like to see the Park Board take this on. Vicki suggested the STARS FOUNDATION.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm

Vicki Motley
Park Board Secretary