

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, May 12, 2020
4:30 p.m., Virtual Meeting via GoToMeeting

PRESENT: Matt Garrett, Jennifer Tigges, Rebecca Kuhle, Robin Kennicker
Rob McCoy, and Ray Werner

ABSENT: Hobie Wood

STAFF PRESENT: Marie Ware, Steve Fehsal, Dan Kroger and Kristen Dietz

MINUTES APPROVED; VOTE:

It was moved by Kennicker, seconded by McCoy, to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2020 meeting. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION OF NATIONAL KIDS TO PARKS DAY MAY 16, 2020:

Park Division Manager, Steve Fehsal gave updated information. Rebranded this year to “Parks to Kids Day” due to social distancing measure they brought the parks to kids.

DISCUSSION OF RECREATION SURVEY AND RESULTS:

Recreation Division Manager, Dan Kroger shared the survey results. Beginning of April, a link went out to emails asking questions regarding how comfortable people are when dealing with recreation programs and activities. Approximately received a total of 770 survey results. Survey was closed after 4 days. 63% of surveyors said yes, they would sign up for recreational programs. Recreation staff will use the survey results to create classes and programs to help make the citizens more comfortable during activities after guidelines have been lifted.

DISCUSSION OF RECREATION DIVISION REPORT:

Currently the recreation division has opened Bunker Hill Golf Course. The golf course is extremely busy and has had to turn away golfers due to not have tee times available. Staff is on hold for seasonal employees. Recreation supervisors may interview and lined up staff hiring is on hold. Pools and the Marina are still currently closed. Pools are still currently being evaluated. Miracle League website is being created. Currently recruiting players for late summer and fall timeframe.

DISCUSSION OF PARK DIVISION REPORT:

Restrooms, pavilions, pet park, campground, and sports courts all remained closed. But currently staff is working on cleaning up the campground since it is not under water. Seasonal staff is currently on hold and full-time staff is picking up all the duties with varied shifts including open and closing gates on the weekends as well. Mowing and trash are our main priorities right now. Next week hanging baskets should be going up. Eagle Point Park Restoration has continued, and Phase II is coming soon. Jackson Park restrooms have currently been placed on hold due to COVID-19. Ash trees are still actively being removed and social distancing guidelines are still in place. Veteran's Memorial project has started, and the pavers have been securely removed and stored. The monuments have been put in frames and boxed with plywood to prevent damage. Pet Park funding is currently being evaluated.

DISCUSSION OF MANAGERS REPORT:

All City Departments were to create a Continuity of Operations Plan. This plan includes emergencies that outlines what our most essential needs are. In addition, the authority and who exactly is in charge of the Department. It outlines essential functions based on seasons. Spring needs means the grass needs mowed. Winter needs mean the snow needs plowed. These are just additional discussion making processes that need to be implemented. Reviewing our budgets and where we can cut back as a department. The City has developed four groups that focus on four main parts of the budget that help develop and reevaluate the decisions. We only have so much in our reserve. We put in the request of for example Parks seasonal staff that the staffing committee will review and report back to us. Next thing we are working on is our re-entry plans. Park staff do not have re-entry plans they have been following guidelines as field staff. Building staff is the next piece and when the administrative office opens and how to redevelop that daily operations and how to keep it safe for stay and citizens. When we open we will be very confident.

COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS/QUESTIONS:

Commissioner Garret asked what the Commissioner could do to help? Manager Ware mentioned to continue to tell our story and updates as they come. If questions are asked please bring them to us but understand all aspects of what we are going through.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Werner, seconded by Tigges, to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. Unanimous.