

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, December 8, 2020
4:30 p.m., Virtual Meeting via GoToMeeting

PRESENT: Jennifer Tigges, Robin Kennicker, Hobie Wood, Rob McCoy, Ray Werner, Jessica Ochoa and Justin Hochberger

ABSENT: None.

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

CALL TO ORDER: Werner called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED; VOTE:

It was moved by Tigges, seconded by Wood, to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2020 meeting. Unanimous.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Brett Blewett 2861 Hickory Hill Dubuque Iowa 52001. Dubuque Veterans Memorial Park – looking to get maintenance completed at Vets. Recently started a 501©3 for Disc Golf and there is a lot of maintenance that needs to be completed to improve safety. As well as design issues and with the significant citizen increase since the pandemic this needs to be looked at especially since it has been over 15 years. Probably within the next 10 years new baskets will also need to be put in place. Wanted to make sure Commission was aware of the issues and hopefully we can add some improvements in the future.

DISCUSSION OF NEW ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS FOR PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION THROUGH NOVUS AGENDA:

Staff presented a 5-page slide show on the upcoming newer process that will fall in line with the City Council agendas and agenda items. This new process will not be taking place in the future as there are several technical aspects being evaluated but Commissioners were given the brief overview of what is to come. Commissioners will receive an email from a meeting notification instead of receiving the email from staff. In addition, all supporting documents that were previously emailed to the Commission would not be visible by the public. More updates and information to come once technical aspects are completed.

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION OF SUMMER PROGRAMMING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CITY OF ASBURY:

City of Asbury reached out to City of Dubuque with interest of partnering for recreation activities within Asbury and City of Dubuque. A memorandum of understanding was drafted with the City Manager and presented to the Commission. It was moved by Wood, seconded by Kennicker, to recommend

the Summer Programming Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Asbury. Unanimous.

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION OF FY22 OPERATING AND CIP BUDGET:

Staff presented division operating and CIP budgets.

Tigges questioned why there were no numbers listed in Park Division Expenditure Summary under Four Mounds. Fehsal believes it was insurance monies but will look into it and rely the information to Commission. Tigges was wondering why improvement level package number 6 was so expensive. Fehsal explained the greenhouse heat is ran by a gas boiler system which steam systems are much more efficient but slowly converting to natural gas forced air and our goal is to converter our entire complex. We will essentially save money. McCoy was wondering if monies were allocated for the bandshell pavilion at Eagle Point Park in the future. Fehsal stated not right now but will work on something for future years. Kennicker was wondering if greenways were strictly parks area only or city wide. Fehsal explained parks only and during the season we maintain these greenway areas. Tigges asked how the Commission or even the public can promote certain improvement level package to see it get approved. Fehsal explained the best way is to provide input at the several budget public input hearings hosted by the Finance Department and City Manager.

Kroger expressed numbers given to Commission are subject to change, in a perfect world the numbers would match but they change, and the improvement level packages are not included in the numbers either. Tigges was wondering what the driving range revenue decreased percentages meant. Kroger explained it was put in as an offset and basically shows that in five years it would pay for itself. This would be additional revenue earned making it a negative number. Ochoa requested additional information regarding replacing the pools themselves instead of annual upkeep since there is no money for replacement. Kroger explained in 2015 there was a pool study, and the study was presented to Council. At that time, it was discussed to receive and file, but only brief conversations have been held. At this point in time until the economy turns around, we will plan on annual upkeep until funds allow pool replacements. Kennicker asked if additional opportunities have been discussed about an aquatic center. Kroger explained since the school district did their own thing, this has not been discussed.

It was moved by McCoy, seconded by Hochberger to recommend the FY22 operating and CIP budgets. Unanimous.

RECOMMENDATION OF SUBMISSION TO RE-CERTIFY DUBUQUE AS A TREE CITY USA:

It was moved by Kennicker, seconded by Wood, to recommend the submission to re-certify Dubuque as a Tree City USA. Unanimous.

MANAGER REPORTS – COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:

None.

COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS/QUESTIONS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Wood, seconded by Kennicker, to adjourn the meeting at 5:59 p.m. Unanimous.