

## **Park Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes**

*November 25, 2024 – 5:00 p.m.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conf. Rm - Rolla City Hall*

**Members Present:** Ken Kwantes, Susan Wrasmann, Mike Fleishhauer, and Justin Renaud

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Floyd Jernigan, Andrew Smith, Julie Quackenbush, and Sierra Cubbage, Rolla citizen

### **1. Call to order**

- Ken Kwantes called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

### **2. Approval of October minutes**

- Susan Wrasmann moved to approve the Oct. 7, 2024, meeting minutes. Mike Fleishhauer seconded the motion. All approved. None opposed.

### **3. Financials/Narrative**

- Mr. Jernigan asked if anyone had questions regarding the financials. He noted there have been a number of burials.
- Insurance hits at random times and is a large chunk of the Parks budget.
- Still paying for SplashZone repairs. Boiler is the only thing left outstanding to be replaced.
- Mr. Kwantes asked about specifics on the topic of bow hunting on city property. Mr. Jernigan said that Rolla City Council approved bow hunting on Rolla City property. Community Development is overseeing this. Mr. Jernigan included a map of the five city properties where bow hunting is allowed: Rolla Cemetery, Public Works Yard, Highway O and Lions Club Drive, Silverleaf Park, and Southside Park. The group discussed qualifications required of hunters. Mike Fleishhauer asked if deer stands are required. Mr. Jernigan said yes, stands are required.
- The pickleball parking lot is coming along slowly. One tree has been taken down, with a few more to go. There will be 27 parking spots in this lot.
- Next plan for Public Works is the parking lot next to Green Acres Ballfield.
- A structural engineer inspected the original pavilion in order to address a 2012 issue regarding structural issues at Veteran's Park Pavilion. Mr. Kwantes asked if there are major issues. Mr. Jernigan said it involves wall bracing and fasteners for the metal roof sheeting. These are fairly small issues and are nothing like a re-do.
- Tree City documentation discussed. Tree removal was approved in the Rolla City Cemetery, city street right-of-ways, and city sidewalks.  
Ameren had requested four easements for power line clearing earlier in the year, including clearing on the property by the Recycling Center. They were granted permission with the understanding they provide a permit that detailed trees that would be impacted, to include the list of mature trees and species.

- Survey has been done on BerJuan Park Ballfield retaining wall, between Bayless and Morgan Fields. We are waiting for their assessment.
- The fourth, and last, pedestrian wooden bridge in BerJuan Park has been replaced by Public Works. This expense will be reimbursed through the ARPA Grant. Work for the new bathroom in BerJuan Park will begin in January. They will start with the sewer line to it.
- Andrew Smith reported that we are in the middle of our Christmas Light Contest, which will run Nov. 11 – Dec. 5. We will post a map of all participating houses on Facebook and our website, with a link to vote for each of the category favorites: “Brightest,” “Wow Factor,” and “Best Overall Display.” People will have from Dec. 6 – 15 to check out and vote on their choices. The winner in each category will receive a custom yard sign with their achievement.
- Mr. Jernigan reported that the Parks Department applied for another LWCF Grant, for lights on the Kwantes Field and for post-tension concrete on the tennis courts.

#### 4. New business

- Change of location for turf field and discussion of game use  
We moved the location of the proposed turf soccer field from the Kittie Robertson Field to the soccer fields on 10<sup>th</sup> Street due to concerns over possible future flooding and width issues. Public Works will do additional dirt work toward the Street side of the soccer playing area so there will be three full fields there. The new bathroom location overlooks the fields from the current gravel parking area. An architectural firm redid the cultural resource survey. In addition to the grant administrators, the Cherokee and Osage tribes will have to sign off, as well.  
Mr. Kwantes said the location change was good. He said you do not want to put a turf field in a flood zone. The expensive product will be washed away.  
Mr. Jernigan spoke on utilization of the proposed turf fields. He said we have a lot of practice space, but not a lot of game space. He would like this area to be a reservable space for games and scrimmages. It will be a quality field and we need to ensure longevity by regular maintenance and controlled usage.  
Justin Renaud said he believed some coaches may question that approach. The group discussed the policies for using this field.  
Mr. Kwantes noted the proposed policy is commonly used by other facilities with turf fields. They only allow games and scrimmages. They also have other requirements, such as no pets, no gum, and only certain type shoes being permissible on the fields.  
The commission also discussed the importance for writing the specs for the bidding process. Specs need to be specific in detail to make sure the materials used will be durable for years of usage.
- Phelps County Recreation for the Handicapped MOU  
Mr. Kwantes asked Mr. Jernigan to talk about the Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. Jernigan explained that we do this agreement every year with Phelps County Recreation for the Handicapped, a not-for-profit organization. It allows them to have an affordable means of recreational dances each month for their group. Justin Renaud made a motion to approve the MOU with PCRH. Susan Wrasmann seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed.

- **Rec pricing**

Fee increases were discussed during the budget process fees. We've been fortunate enough to get grants to help upgrade our fields and facilities. Mr. Jernigan included a spreadsheet with proposed increases, although slight, for 2025. Most of the changes that will be made are \$5.

The Downtown Parking Lot would have a new charge of \$100/day, with a three-hour max.

This is for exclusive use of the lot. If there is no exclusivity for users, there is no charge.

Justin Renaud made a motion to accept the Updated Rolla Parks and Recreation Facility Fees for 2025. Susan Wrasmann seconded the motion. Mr. Kwantes entertained questions regarding fees. There were no questions. All were in favor of the new rates, with no opposition.

## **5. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.