

Park Commission Meeting Minutes
4th Quarter, Fiscal Year 2014-15
October 8, 2015

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 1st Quarter meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. on Thursday, October 8, 2015 by Chairman Ron Kroeger, with Commission members present as follows: Gail Price, Cliff McCormick and ex-officio member Roger Hershey. Zach Gall, Jolie Austin, Matt Beem, Dan Pierce, and ex-officio member Judge Jack Gant were absent. Eric Urfer and Tamara Bennetzen were present representing Parks & Recreation staff.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the May 14, 2015 and August 20, 2015 meetings were approved as written.

Chair Comments

Chairman Kroeger took this opportunity to thank the Park Commissioners for volunteering their time to the Park Commission.

Director's Report

- Interim Tourism Plan: Mr. Urfer explained that he is working on staffing the Tourism Department to cover basic operations, marketing, and fulfilling deliverables. A long range plan is being developed to merge the Tourism Department with Parks & Recreation. He will present this plan to the Commission for feedback in the near future.
- Silverstein Arena – Mr. Urfer explained that the City and Global Spectrum have accepted a 10-year naming rights contract with Silverstein Eye Centers; effectively renaming the facility “Silverstein Eye Centers Arena”. The value of this contract is \$2.75 million payable over the 10-year period. This will improve the bottom line for Global Spectrum, which will in turn result in larger profit sharing back to the facility’s capital improvements fund for the sole purpose of maintaining the facility.
- Current P&R Staffing Update – Mr. Urfer explained that there is a vacant Recreation Specialist position that they are working to fill. Although this position has drastically changed over the past 10 years, it remains union represented. This places various constraints that make it difficult to produce recreation programming. Staff is working through IBEW to change the job description and perhaps remove it from union representation.
- Fall PRST Presentation – Mr. Urfer reviewed the fall PRST presentation. The format of the semi-annual presentation has been changed by the Mayor and City Council to a report format and committees are limited to five minutes to deliver their report. The Commission approved of the report that was prepared.

Park Project Report

Mr. Urfer provided the following park project updates to the Commission:

- McCoy, DeWitt, Sermon, and tennis court rehabilitation were covered in the Commission’s semi-annual report
- Waterfall Park – gates will be installed along the pedestrian path to replace ballards.
- Historic Sites – maintenance issues are being investigated, prioritized and addressed at the historic sites; including, but not limited to: porch stabilization and water infiltration issues at the Vaile Mansion, windows at Bingham-Waggoner, exterior lighting and security at the Truman Depot, and security monitoring at the National Frontier Trails Museum.

Financial Report

- 1st Quarter 15-16 – Mr. Urfer reviewed the financial report for the 1st Quarter of Fiscal Year 2015-16. At this point, target is 25% expenditure; General Fund Cost Centers are 29% expended and Sales Tax Cost Centers are 29% expended. Mr. Urfer explained that this is typical due to encumbrances associated with blanket purchase order establishment and expenses incurred during peak summer operations.

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Old Business

- P&R Section of the City Code – tabled
- THCF Friends of the Park – tabled
- Commission Projects
 - Athletic Complex – tabled

New Business

- Upcoming Events – Mr. Urfer reminded the Commission of the many upcoming fall and winter events, including: Enchanted Forest, Mayor’s Christmas Carnival, Pumpkins in the Park, Best Little Arts & Crafts Show, Veterans’ Day Event, and the various holiday events taking place on the Square and at the historic sites.

Next Meeting

The next Park Commission meeting will be a holiday meeting scheduled in mid-December.

Adjournment

With no other business appearing before the Park Commission, this meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.