

Park Commission Meeting Minutes
2nd Quarter FY 2019-20
Truman Memorial Building – Rotary Room
February 6, 2020
4:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 2nd Quarter meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Zac Gall, Chair of the Park Commission, with commission members present as follows: Jolie Austin, Gail Price, Michael Steinmeyer, Diane Kyser, and advisory member Roger Hershey. Commission Member Shawn Brimer was absent. Eric Urfer, Director; Morris Heide, Assistant Director; Jodi Wynn, Recreation Manager; Mike Hicks, Parks & Grounds Manager; and Tamara Bennetzen, Staff Assistant were present representing Parks/Recreation/Tourism Department staff.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the November 14, 2019 meeting were approved as written.

Chair Comments

Chair Zac Gall stated that the Living Windows and Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting event went very well and he commended Eric Urfer and his staff on a job well done.

Membership Discussion

Eric informed the Commission that Cliff McCormick is not renewing his seat on the Park Commission. Eric explained that Cliff had served on the Park Commission for 17 years and asked the Commissioners to consider having a reception for him or something to show appreciation for his time served. Zac and Roger will discuss plans and let staff know.

Director's Report

- Budget Position
 - FY 19-20 2nd Quarter Budget Position – Eric briefly covered each cost center under Parks and Recreation in both the General Fund and Parks and Recreation Sales Tax Fund. He stated that overall, General Fund Cost Centers were 47% expended and Parks & Recreation Sales Tax Cost Centers were 64% expended. Eric reminded the Commission that due to the seasonal nature of Parks & Recreation and encumbrance of certain expenditures for an entire fiscal year, these percentages would level out over the course of the fiscal year.
 - 19-20 Adjustments – Eric explained the two additional rounds of budget cuts that Parks & Rec has sustained this year. This is in addition to the cuts that were made at the beginning of the fiscal year. He explained that the Department's General Fund budget went from \$2.4 Million last Fiscal Year to \$1.6 Million now. Eric discussed the proposal to split out the recreation and health levy to a separate fund. Of this, he hopes Parks will receive no less than \$2 Million, with the remaining \$600,000 going to the animal shelter. The Commission is in support of this and offered to assist in any way possible to make this happen. Eric said he would have more information in March, but reiterated that the City Manager's office is in support of this proposal in general.
 - 20-21 Goals – Eric stated he is optimistic about this budget preparation season. He reviewed each of the actions, tasks, and initiatives that staff is pursuing next year

for Parks & Recreation, Tourism, and the Arena.

- Staffing Update: Eric discussed current staffing vacancies and stated that due to recent budget cuts and a hiring freeze, filling vacant positions would require making additional cuts elsewhere in the budget. Staff is working through solutions on this.
- Recreation Program/Events Update – tabled; flyer distributed.
- Park Operations Update – tabled.
- Projects Update – tabled.
 - Parks
 - Tourism
 - Arena

Old Business

- Warming Center – tabled
- Homeless Discussions – tabled

New Business

Tabled.

Adjournment

Due to the Mayor's State of the City Address this evening, Michael motioned and Roger seconded to table all other items on the Agenda to the next meeting. This meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.