



PARKS + RECREATION COMMITTEE
APRIL 12, 2022 AT 4:30PM
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM, 4TH FLOOR
MEETING MINUTES

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

II. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee was called to order by Chairperson Holleman at 4:30 p.m. on April 12, 2022.

III. ANNOUNCE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Councilperson Travis Holleman
Councilperson Stacey Streetman
Councilperson Joe Shakeenab

Councilpersons Wanda Allen and Wallace Redd were absent.

IV. ADOPTION OF MEETING MINUTES

- January 11, 2022
- March 08, 2022

Councilperson Streetman made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Councilperson Shakeenab seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion to adopt the minutes passed without objection.

V. COUNCIL ACTION

None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

None

VII. OLD BUSINESS

None

VIII. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- **HR Update**

Jennifer Letourneau informed the Committee that the Department will be tripling in size for the summer as they are getting ready to hire for the pools, Summer Youth Program, Summer Night Lights Program, part-time seasonal maintenance, and golf positions. Jennifer stated they have several events to attend and have made flyers to put information out regarding the current open positions. Jennifer also mentioned that they would like to have a full summer with all the programs but need to have a full staff to do so. She went on to list the other open positions within the Department.

Councilperson Streetman asked if the flyer could be sent electronically. Michelle Austin replied that an email will be sent out to the department's newsletter group the following day. The email will also be sent to the Committee members, various APSU staff members, teachers, homeschool programs, and Scout leaders.

Councilperson Shakeenab inquired about a point of contact. Jennifer Letourneau answered that it would depend on the position but that Samantha Walker, the department's HR Coordinator could direct them to the correct person as needed.

- **Project Update**

Jennifer Letourneau updated the Committee on current projects including the Red River Bridge, Beech St. Park, Crow Recreation Center counters, Billy Dunlop bank stabilization, and the regional recreation center.

Councilperson Streetman requested an update on the Exit 8 Athletic Complex. Jennifer Letourneau informed her that road construction will be starting soon which means they will be asking for more money in the budget soon for Phase 2. She indicated that it will be for multipurpose fields, both synthetic and natural turf.

Councilperson Holleman asked how long the synthetic turf fields last. Jennifer Letourneau replied that they last around 10 years and are not maintenance free.

- **Riverwalk Flags**

Jennifer Letourneau reported that four new flag poles will be going up at McGregor Park. Jennifer explained that the Rotary Club had a project that ended up with three finalists and they have decided to use all three. The fourth flag will be a Ukraine flag and a ceremony with the Rotary Club will be taking place soon.

Councilperson Holleman asked if there is enough room for that many flag poles. Jennifer replied that they are running out of room so they will need to come up with another solution soon. Jennifer also noted the time it takes staff to raise and lower the flags when needed.

Councilperson Shakeenab wanted to know how many phases there were regarding the Red River Bridge project. Jennifer Letourneau listed the steps that have already been taken and commented that she would get updated information for him.

Councilperson Holleman inquired about the timeline for the bridge and the ribbon cutting. Jennifer Letourneau estimated that the project should start this fall or early January.

Councilperson Streetman asked if there was anything the council could do to support the department. Jennifer Letourneau listed several projects they could possibly help with. Councilperson Streetman mentioned the grass at Swan Lake Pool. She and Councilperson Shakeenab, both had constituents reach out to them regarding how high the grass was last year. Jennifer Letourneau described the issues they faced in the previous year and the changes they've made this year.

Michelle Austin informed the Committee that the Department's event season is about to begin and they will need volunteers. She also mentioned that the Department will be highlighting several volunteer groups during National Volunteer Week.

Councilperson Streetman commented that she was excited about the Mayor's Summer Night Lights. Jennifer Letourneau responded that the staff was really energized to be back to a regular season since COVID began.

Jennifer Letourneau thanked the Committee members for attending the meeting and for their support.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Councilperson Shakeenab made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Streetman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.