

Park Board Meeting 10/17/2005

Meeting Chair: Park Board President called the meeting to order.

In Attendance:

Doug Pickert, Park Board President

Mike Webb, Interem City Administrator

Doug Dailey, Park Board Vice President

Nancy Cook, Treasurer

Jay Garvin, Director of Parks and Recreation

Ron Crow, Park Board Member

Dick Horton, BWR Senior Parks and Recreation Planner

Chad Weinand, BWR

Absent:

Barry Thierer, Park Board Member

Cheri Reichenberger, Park Board Member

Kay Speed, Park Board Member

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the meeting for 9/12/2005 were tabled.

Treasurer's Report

Jay went over the budget.

Proposed Projects:

Pathway lighting	\$12,000.00
Tennis Court lighting	\$ 6,000.00
Picnic tables & pads for Sunflower	\$ 3,500.00
Tree City USA	\$ 6,000.00
TOTAL 2005 BUDGET	\$27,500.00

Total expenditures as of 9/30/05 were:

Tree City USA	\$ 6,000.00
Paths/Tennis Courts lighting (Western Extralite)	\$16,189.00
Rental of trencher (RSC)	\$ 169.00
Corner Beds (Hermes & Kokopelli)	\$ 1,457.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$23,815.00

It was decided to not do the picnic tables and pads at this time.

Park Fees and Liquor Tax

Cash Balance as of 9/30/05

Park Fees	\$111,273.00
Liquor Tax	\$ 18, 602.00
TOTAL	\$129,875.00
Shugart Fund	\$ 20,221.00

Friends of the Parks

Beginning balance	\$17,102.51
Expenditure for Fun Services (Dunk Tank)	\$ 112.50
Ending balance	\$16,990.00

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Dick Horton went over Draft Master Plan Recommendations.
 - a) 1st recommendation: That the Park Board and elected officials meet once a year. Doug Dailey and Doug Pickert thought meeting twice a year would be great.
 - b) 2nd recommendation: Recommending hiring another full-time staff to focus on recreation programming, marketing/promotions and the new pool. Currently Jay stated that we have 2 Full-Time Park maintenance people. We also have 4 part-time people that work in the community center.
 - c) 3rd recommendation: Work on developing a formal partnership with Johnson County Parks and recreation district and U.S.D. #259. Also work on agreements with different clubs (football, soccer etc). We should also review on an annual basis to keep up to date.
 - d) 4th recommendation: Capital Improvement Budget – The current allocation should be increased so that citizens recognize that the city is taking care of what it has prior to asking their support for new facilities. We have received \$37,000.00 over the last 6 years. There was a 2-½ million dollar bond issue for the new pool. Need for long term funding source with a section addressing Parks & Capitol maintenance. Doug Pickert feels it will not happen without extra help, such as quality of life bond issue.
 - e) 5th recommendation: Re-design of Miller Park; consider removal of existing ball fields and a new use of the old pool site. Discussing of acquiring land around Park on the East and West side. East side is more favorable due to the street on the West side. Park Board is un-sure if we would want to acquire any more land at this time.
 - f) 6th recommendation: Land transactions that should be pursued and include the following: Parks at schools, Widow Big Knife, Wilderness Park, Kansas Board of Regents Land, New residential development west of town. Discussion was made about making a land swap with Kansas Board of Regents for land by the Sunflower Ball fields and making more

ball fields out there. Currently Johnson County is looking at developing land by Lexington and 95th Street (Hunt/Midwest).

Dick is still trying to come up with an Attraction that would pull more people into De Soto. He talked about the trail system to Historical sites. He will be making changes to the recommendations and re-distributing them to the Park Board before our meeting with the City Council on November 10th.

After Dick left the meeting, the Park Board discussed the meeting and felt that Dick was not meeting our expectations and we are calling a special meeting on October 24th at 6:30 to discuss what we feel needs to be done before we present the Comp Plan to City Council.

New Business

1.) City Council has asked us to discuss the 2006 CDBG Fund (block funding from County) in which we will be receiving \$66,000.00 to be used on Park related items. The City Council has already decided that the money goes toward the new pool site. They have asked us to recommend which projects we feel would be most beneficial. The choices were Parking lot paving \$30,000.00, Sidewalk from pool to 84th \$6,000.00; sidewalk from pool to Lexington Avenue \$15,000.00; covered shelter \$65,000.00. Doug brought up having a canvas (cloth) cover over part of the playground area and extending to cover the shelter would cost approximately \$21,000.00. Nancy was worried about how easily that it could be damaged by vandalism. After further discussion it was agreed upon that are first choices would be the paving of the parking lot in the amount of \$30,000.00, shelter with shade over the play areas and picnic tables for \$21,000.00 and sidewalk to Lexington \$15,000.00; total cost being \$66,000.00.

2.) Jay Garvin also brought up that Kay Speed called and let him know that she will have to resign due to the fact that her husband has school on Monday evenings and will not be able to attend our meetings.

Closing of the October meeting.

Motion by Nancy to adjourn. Ron seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting Adjourned.