

Park Board Meeting - 08/09/04

Meeting Chair: Mike Nolan, President of Park Board

In Attendance:

**Ron Crow
Jay Garvin
Doug Dailey
Mike Nolan
Greg Johnson
Barry Thierer
Doug Pickert (Guest)**

Not in Attendance:

**Cheri Reichenberger
Nancy Cook**

Old Business

- 1) Acceptance of previous meeting minutes. Mike Nolan motioned to accept the August meeting minutes and the motion was seconded by Barry Thierer. Motion carried.
- 2) Discuss 2005 Park Board Budget. Greg Johnson passed out an itemized list of funds built into the 2004 Park board budget.
- 3) Discuss Park Fund Projects for 2005. Greg Johnson presented our 2005 priorities to the city and council feedback was positive for the prioritized list that was generated from the July Park Board meeting.
- 4) Discuss "Friends of the Park" money. Greg Johnson discussed this money and the sources for it.

New Business

1) Park Board completed the purchase of 11 concrete trash receptacles from Texaco. The receptacles were picked up and are currently being stored for future use at the City of De Soto maintenance lot. The cost of the 11 receptacles was \$120.00.

A motion was made to pay for these out of the "Friends of De Soto" park fund for \$120.00. Mike Nolan motioned, Barry Thierer seconded and motion carried.

2) Community Center Usage

Mike Nolan brought to light concerns regarding community center usage for large scale events and issues related to security requirements and revaluation of current hourly rates and cost for post-event cleaning. Alcoholic events that run into the evenings were the focus of this discussion.

Greg Johnson and Jay Garvin stated that a similar discussion had taken place last year as well on this very topic.

Key areas of discussion:

- Safety for monitors, residents and event attendees
- Ability to marshal county Sheriff assistance
- Ability to enforce community center rules and guidelines
- Hourly rental rates and availability
- Forfeiture of deposit language

3) Doug Dailey brought up land identified as a future park site located in the vicinity of Lexington Avenue and Penner Road. This land is directly across from Lexington Trails Middle School on both the west and east areas of the railroad overpass, east and south of Lexington Avenue.

Initial plat and maps are being made available to park board members to review the site, its usability, and start the process for initial planning. Doug Pickert volunteered to walk the area, take a look of preliminary boundary maps and provide feedback in our September Park Board meeting.

Kim Gordanier provided some materials for codes and land use from city planning for all members to review.

4) Barry mentioned that he would consider some of the park funding for additional pool amenities. Greg Johnson stated that the new pool project will accommodate for some flexibility in this area and recommended that the Park Board monitor that project as it becomes active.

5) Doug Dailey performed investigation on possibilities of obtaining some Park Inventory software for city use in both maintaining an active inventory of all city parks, as well as for work order management. Based on the city's current population and inventory of parks, it was found that the purchase of software licenses for currently available application was not appropriate at this time.

Once De Soto reaches a population of around 12,000 + this will be a possibility.

6) Parks Event Sign. Mike Nolan suggested use of monies for a sign to present pool hours and information and park URL. Location was also discussed for either in front of community center or for view from Lexington Avenue.

7) Johnson County Streamway Project. Doug Dailey asked about creative ways to finance and push completion of the final leg of Streamway to Miller Park connection. Doug asked if it would be possible to subsidize the final leg through use of park monies.

The recommendation would have the county repay the park board in next years JCPRD capital plan. The results of this request will help the Park Board better prioritize possible projects.

8) Future Plans for Old Pool Site. The board discussed design possibilities for the planned demolition and removal of the existing city pool. One main idea was to create additional parking with some landscape and sitting areas for residents to use, while at the same time creating an anchor to the core city center through-fare. Other ideas were:

- batting cages
- leave rest-rooms (priority)
- additional parking w/some landscape and sitting areas (higher access)
- skateboard park
- spray ground (water park for kids)

The members are to survey the area and come to the next meeting with ideas for discussion.

9) Beautification - North and South Entrances. The park board is investigating entrance design improvement possibilities for the north and south entrances to the downtown district. Doug Dailey stated that the current pine trees, free standing telephone poles and signage present an opportunity to re-establish an inviting welcome mat for passers-by.

10) September is the preliminary date for Tree City USA walk through for tree inventory. Jay Garvin asked about Kill Creek Road project and Mike Nolan said that he would contact state to get things going.

11) Ron Crow mentioned that preparation for DeSoto Days is on track specific to the Park and Rec Dunk Tank. Dignitaries are lined up for the tank and Ron asked that those willing to help man the station during the festival were to let him know.

Closing of the August Meeting

Motion by Barry Thierer to close out the meeting. The motion was seconded by Doug Dailey. Motion carried and meeting ended at 9:15 PM.

Consent Agenda for September

Community Center Usage	Jay Garvin	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Jay Garvin to do cost study on cleaning and facilities use2. Jay Garvin to review incident/event ratio and report to team3. Jay Garvin to estimate possible hourly rate increases4. Mike Nolan and Barry Thierer to research how other communities manage security5. Jay Garvin to identify improvements to language for forfeiture of deposit <p>The objective is to present a recommendation to city council in September.</p>
Tree City USA	Mike Nolan	Contact the state of Kansas with regards to current plans for Kill Creek Road project.
Post Board Minutes on City Web Site	Doug Dailey	Format and post previous meeting minutes to the City of De Soto external web site through Kim Gordanier.
Future Plans for Existing Pool Site	Board Members	Be prepared to discuss more specifically on this topic.
Johnson County Streamway Project	Greg Johnson	Greg to contact Johnson County and investigate costs and available opportunities to assist the county in the final connection to Miller Park through available Park monies.
Future Park Site	Doug Pickert	Doug Pickert agreed to take a look at some preliminary boundary maps for the future park site and take a closer look at the available tracts of land that would support this park. Doug will bring his initial feedback to our next meeting.
Beautification - North and South Entrances	Doug Pickert	Perform a preliminary assessment of entrance areas and bring first draft of improvement possibilities to the September meeting.

Additional Comment

Doug Pickert was introduced as a guest to the board meeting. Doug comes with a landscape design background and is new to the DeSoto area and is interested in helping the team wherever possible. Park board member introductions were made.