Harrisburg Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board

Unapproved Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Recreation Board was called to order on July 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., with Scott Langerock presiding. Members present were Jason Nelson, Chris Kuntz, Ryan Berg, Heather Stolsmark and Elizabeth Heidinger. Also present were Jason Thurston from the City, Kevin Maxwell, and David Locke from Stockwell Engineers.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consent Agenda: Motion R. Berg, seconded by Kuntz to approve the consent agenda as presented.

1. Approved Agenda – Declaration of any Potential Conflict of Interest

2. Approved June 12, 2024 Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board Meeting Minutes

Upon roll call, all members present in favor.

Business Items:

Jim Simunek from the Harrisburg Baseball Association submitted a report by email, reporting that REC leagues are finishing up in the next 10 days, all 13U and up teams are preparing for post-season play which is starting in the next couple weeks, and the Legion team is looking to compete for the state title once again.

Locke reported that the Harrisburg Trails advisory committee is meeting to discuss the survey tomorrow, Thursday, July 11. They are happy with the number of community surveys that have been filled out (approximately 230-245 surveys from the community). Another social media reminder went out and they will continue to receive input until the end of July.

Thurston submitted the Central Park budget request for the parking lot on the recommendation of the parks board from last month.  A response is not anticipated until the Council has held a few additional meetings.

Locke expressed frustrations with the sprinkler and pump installation. He has had several onsite meetings with the contractors who are working through the issues to make sure the pump and the sprinkler system can run three-five zones at a time. It is a complicated system so it takes time, but he is confident it will be working well by the end of the summer.

The 4th of July celebration was a huge success. The legion ran out of food due to the size of the crowd. The fireworks display was great; Thurston said they set up for 5-6 hours and had five stations to set off fireworks.

Several food trucks and the Legion will provide food options at National Night Out. Five dollar Harrisburg tokens will be distributed to attendees. More than 1000 people are expected to attend. The event will be held Tuesday, August 6 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Maxwell provided an update on the Liberty Elementary/Heritage/City Office/REC Center building. He gave a brief update on the negotiations between the City and the school board on the building’s transfer of ownership. .

The board will elect officers at the September meeting.

With no further business, a motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Kuntz, to adjourn the Parks, Recreation & Forestry board meeting at 7:30 p.m. Upon roll call, all members present in favor.

The next regular meeting of the Harrisburg Parks & Rec Board will be held at 6:00 pm on August 14, 2024.

Submitted by Shannon Gustafson, Secretary (based on notes from Scott Langerock, President).