

Park Board Meeting Minutes
Jackson City Hall
5/9/2023
5:30 p.m.

Attendees:

- Attendees: Michael Haeffner, Matt Skaret, Neal Carlson, Luke Ewald, Tony Oxborough, Mike Gruhlkle, Mike Eddy, Lynne Anderson, Joe Pell (City Council Representative).
- Absent: Michael Gilbert
- Guests: John Weland, Dave Hargen, John Schultz.

Veteran's Memorial Update:

- Dave Hargen and John Schultz shared updates on the Veteran's Memorial/Plaza update; a committee of four veterans helped create what they feel would be a final representation of what they like; they visited other veteran memorials, they spoke to individuals who donated thousands to thousands of dollars for their community memorials; the size of the memorial/plaza is close to the size of the apartment building; the city will need to be involved by ensuring the lighting and trees are properly placed, possibly assist with seasonal upkeep (including winter); partnership with the American Legion will help with the capacity they have; parking will be at City Hall and near Memorial Park, there will likely be two large events per year that take up the most parking.
- The next step is to begin fundraising, visit with businesses, and get media attention.
- Presentation slides will be shared with City Council meeting.

Memorial Park Picnic Table:

- **There have been residents asking for more picnic tables; folks would like to have them in Memorial Park.**
- **The goal will be to order a few more for this**

Basketball and Tennis Court Maintenance:

- The courts were updated in 2020 in Central, Dumont, and Ashley Park, and have now formed cracks; the warranties provided by CHS Sports are only good for one year; CHS Sports is planning to visit in the next couple of weeks to take a look at the courts.
- There are four courts that need to be fixed; all these courts are heavily used by residents for basketball, tennis, and pickleballs.
- The estimated crack filling is estimated at \$1,500 per court.

Community Garden Updates:

- Progress has been made over the past week, though we are a little behind schedule; the garden plot area is about 50% completed.
- We will come up with a way to mark the boxes to make it easy to register for the box.

Kayak Rentals:

- [HRI Vending](#) is a Wisconsin company that builds kayak rental stations.
 - There is a locker system that houses the PPE and paddles, and then a rack system for the kayaks and/or paddle boards.
 - The customer agrees to all the liability waivers on the touch screen, selects the type of watercraft they want (currently single or double kayaks or Paddle boards), selects how many hours they want to rent it for, and then swipes their credit card. The door to their PPE opens and the watercraft unlocks and away they go!
 - To return the equipment, the customer swipes the same card and the machine matches the last 4 numbers and re-opens/unlocks their spaces and they return everything.
 - The machine tells them if they have not closed the locker door or locked in the kayak properly and then computes how long they have had them out and up-charges if necessary.
 - Pricing-
 - 4 place is \$7,100.
 - 8 place is \$10,500.
 - 12 place is \$13,100.
- [Outdoor Vending Solutions](#) is a Texas company that builds kayak rental stations.
 - Operates pretty much the same way as HRI Vending.
 - It is modular, so you can get lockers and racks for 4, 8 or 12 (you can buy a 4 and then if too small, just add another set to the original and easily change the size on the owners' page of the customer interface). Additionally, we can add a remote system so you can take control of the machine, open doors, manually return or troubleshoot
- [Movatic](#) is the system that we use for our bike share system that also makes kayak rental stations.
 - Each rental station comes fully equipped with 4, 8, or 12 brand new sit-on-top kayaks or SUPs, along with the associated lifejackets and paddles.
 - Each Kayak is stored in its own locker unit, along with the associated paddle and lifejackets. Users can unlock the locker and access the equipment after setting up an account on the rent fun mobile app and scanning the QR code on the locker.
 - Total cost is \$15,000.
- The concerns expressed by park board members include: getting the canoes or kayaks back to Jackson from landing zones, the time it might take to clean the kayaks/canoes if they get dirty, maintenance if they get broken, etc.
- It was suggested to explore this as an entrepreneur opportunity; keep exploring this project, look at having a poll in the paper.

Dog Park Updates:

- Tony and Joe met on 5/4/2023 with the fence folks and showed them an area to potentially move the dog park to; we agreed to use the south ball field for this location, however, there has

been discussion of having a Summer softball league using both fields this summer (2023). This is still in the works.

- The new area we talked about would be south of the skating rink. The gentlemen we met with stated this looked like a workable area and looked like a great spot. Tony stated that teeing into water line from the hydrant at the skate park would not be an issue. He was going to call in a “gopher one” to ensure there were not lines that would interfere with this process.
- Another thing to think about is maybe running electrical boxes to the trees in that section, or possibly others, for lights to be used in the winter.
- For everyone’s historical reference, this location has been talked about before, in June 2022. At that time, we wanted to see how the usage of Albertus Fields went the rest of the summer before deciding to change locations away from Albertus Fields.
- The goal is to build a dog park that is 75ft x 75ft that would be located away from Albertus Fields; if we use the shape shown in the image shared by Tony, it would be around 405ft of fencing; the dog park would have wood chips or another alternative instead of grass so there is less maintenance and dog owners will pick up after their pets.
- **Motion made** by Joe, seconded by Lynne, to relocate the dog park, all in favor, motion carries.

Beer League Baseball/Softball (Albertus Fields):

- The goal is spruce up Albertus Fields, this will likely take over a year to get done; a plan will be put together by Tony and Neal and proposed to Park Board; we’d like to see what amenities we currently have get used more often (even with the flooding).
- We may need to amend the Alcohol Policy that would allow drinking at Albertus Fields, this can be brought to City Council.
- **Motion made** by Lynne, seconded by Luke, to amend the alcohol policy for Albertus Fields during “Beer League Baseball/Softball”, all in favor, motion carries.
- Address the electrical (lighting) to make sure it is up to code, need new stadium bleachers,

Disc Golf Grand Opening Event:

- The goal is to have a disc golf course grand opening in June 2023.
- The trail signs are ready to be picked up at Eye Kandy studios for Nelson Creek and the Disc Golf Course;
- We need to flag the area for the Trail Kiosk for Nelson Creek Trail area; this will allow Neal and the crew to set up the kiosk up.
- Items shared by Bill from April 2023 included volunteers are working on:
 - Tee-pad signs
 - Warning signs for walking path
 - Message board
 - Navigation signs
 - Removal of any downed branches/obstacles for mowing (I did a preliminary sweep and it looks great already)

- City personnel assessment of water crossings they installed for viability, address any identified deficiencies.

Tony/Neal Report:

- Tony shared that Neal will take control of park responsibilities and maintain the budget, Tony will help as needed.
- Three trees were removed from Dumont Park, the goal is to help get grass growing because it wasn't growing around the trees, explore adding a shelter area for kids/families to rest while playing basketball.
- Weed spraying will be kicking off soon, looking at Dann's Island and Albertus Fields area only.
- Bob's Biffies will be placed in parks over the next month, looking to add one near the fishing bayou for fishermen.
- Tony would look like to order more garbage cans and dog waste receptacles.
- Drinking fountain in Dann's Island will be removed.
- Neal would like internet/Wi-Fi added to the splash pad so he can be notified if there is an issue with the splash pad- this would go from the concession stand to the splash pad shed.
- The splash pad is about 80% ready to go, everything to make it work does work- the final switch is all that is needed to get it completely operational for the year.

Next Meeting:

- 6/13/2023 at 530 pm at Jackson City Hall.

Adjourn:

- Meeting adjourn at 722pm.