

Park Board Meeting Minutes  
Jackson City Hall  
11/14/2023  
5:30 p.m.

**Attendees:**

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

**Parks, Trails, Recreation Survey Review:**

- The survey results can be found at this link: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-J9UI6j5keNadjwCy28lm8w\\_3D\\_3D/](https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-J9UI6j5keNadjwCy28lm8w_3D_3D/)
- See attached document for themes: updating the park equipment to be more inclusive and fun, snow removal along trails, community activities coordinator, fishing league/tournament, moving volleyball court to Ashley Park or another location (move out of Sunset Park).
- We will plan to present results at the Jackson City Council meeting on 11/21/2023.

**Park Identification Project:**

- We are wrapping up our work with SafetyFirst- they've helped us, we should explore seeking future projects to work on within our community parks.
- A few concerns shared included: play equipment that has been in the parks for well over a decade (in some cases longer), some of the equipment has cracked rubber and wood splinters, the Ashley Park restrooms are starting to show age- the concrete is starting to slop, a paint job is needed, a permanent bathroom for Dumont Park.
- Holiday lights (Memorial Park), two volleyball courts (Ashley Park), large and small sandboxes (Sunset Park), a new warming house (Memorial Park), softball league (Memorial Park).
- Our estimated budget for the 2024 Park Budget is around \$50,000; at some point, it will be worth exploring the partnership with the community foundation to help raise funding.

**Jackson Healthcare Foundation Grant- Due 11/15/2023:**

- The Jackson Healthcare Foundation Grant is due on 11/15/2023; the shade structure for sandboxes- use the same company as we did for the Splash Pad, new volleyball posts and nets, holiday lights.
- **Motion made by** Lynne, seconded by Luke to apply for the Jackson Healthcare Foundation Grant, to seek funding for two outdoor volleyball nets and one shade structure, all in favor, motion carries.

**Seasonal Help Update:**

- The City of Jackson started advertising for seasonal help; the weather hasn't been very cooperative to begin making ice for the skating rink in Memorial Park; on the park and recreation survey, there has been a desire to have free ice skates available to use during the winter season;

#### **Dog Park Ribbon Cutting- Brainstorm Date for Spring 2024:**

- We need to determine a date for a ribbon cutting event, we may want to reconsider a ribbon cutting and go with a special event like- National Pet Month is May, August is National Dog Month; we will continue to discuss this event as we move closer to spring.
- It was suggested that we encourage dog owners to run their dogs at Benes Parks instead of Albertus Fields.
- The Jackson County Animal Protection Society (JCAPS) will discuss assisting with the completing a Jackson Healthcare Foundation Grant to pursue dog park toys/equipment for dogs.

#### **Tony/Neal Report:**

- Neal shared that we have a badger problem along some of the parks and trails in Jackson; a few holes are in the Sunset Pond Trail area; there have been 6-8 holes identified so far, and have taken a lot of time to refill the holes.
- Patterson Park updates should be ready to go the week of 11/13/2023 (chin-up and climbing wall), and Sunset Park updates should be ready to go the week of 11/13/2023 (ten spin).
- The Veterans Plaza project is having some issues; the veteran group is having issues finding someone to spearhead the project.
- The skateboard park will be rearranged to make room for snow maintenance during the winter season.
- The EZ-Rink skating rink is recommended to condense two of the rinks into one rink that is 80x100; we will need to purchase more plastic to help cover the area.
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#### **Jackson Youth Suggestions:**

- Joe visited with youth while on a walk-in early October 2023; a few items the youth suggested to Joe included:
  - Sand Volleyball Court- this was also mentioned in the recent park survey.
  - E-Scooters- this was also mentioned in the recent park survey.
  - Mini Golf Course- need to come up with a location, but near school.
  - Arcades-
  - Outdoor Bowling-
  - Outdoor Movie Night- have an inflatable screen or drop-down screen attached to a building in a park; we could use the movie night as a way to sell popcorn, soda, and other treats with proceeds going to Veterans Memorial and other park projects

**Next Meetings:**

- 12/12/2023 at 530 pm at Jackson City Hall.

**Adjourn:**

- Meeting adjourn at 641pm.