



LEE'S SUMMIT PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF LEE'S SUMMIT, MISSOURI

DATE:	June 26, 2019	TIME:	6:00 PM	PLACE:	Strother Conference Room
Board Members Present:		Board Members Absent:		Staff Present:	Other Guests:
Mindy Aulenbach, Vice President		Tyler Morehead, President		Joe Snook	
Lawrence Bivins, Treasurer		Jim Huser		Carole Culbertson	
Nancy Kelley				David Dean	
Samantha Shepard				Steve Casey	
Nick Walker				Tede Price	
Casey Crawford				Jackie McCormick Heanue	
Marly McMillen (6:07pm)				Brooke Chestnut	



	<p>recommendation from the Park Board, would be a presentation of the proposed changes before the City Council, since the Ordinances of the City are under the ultimate authority of the City Council.</p> <p>Ms. McCormick Heanue summarized the proposed changes, which include the deletion of all references to the Beautification Commission, since it is no longer under the Park Board; updates to the Ordinance to ensure it is consistent with LSPR's policy regarding other power driven mobility devices (OPDMD's) as required under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA;) language and definitions to permit the use of E-Bikes to operate within the LSPR system as long as physical intervention is used to operate them; language to permit the Administrator the authority to deviate from curfew and other limitations on a limited basis for special circumstances, such as pooch paddle.</p> <p>Mr. Snook noted another significant discussion which took place at the Ad Hoc Committee level was the use of tobacco in the parks. Currently, this is a rule, not an Ordinance. The Committee made no formal recommendation to change the current structure, however there was significant discussion regarding vaping, which has increased significantly in use recently, even though trends of tobacco use has gone down. He noted staff would be bringing further research on vaping to the Board in the future for consideration to determine whether there is a desire to add vaping to our list of prohibited items as a rule.</p> <p>Mr. Bivins noted there is a good article in the National Parks publication which shows vaping is an increasing concern, and showing a tremendous increase in the use of vaping.</p> <p>Mr. Crawford asked what the detriment is to vaping.</p> <p>Mr. Bivins suggested before an intense discussion on the topic takes place, the Board read the article, which pointed out a couple of helpful tips, like pairing up with a health entity in the community who is aware of the statistics and risks of vaping. He also suggested we allow staff to do additional research or form another ad hoc committee to review the issue. Mr. Snook suggested staff complete the research and bring it to the Board as a discussion piece and then move forward. If the topic appears too big for the Park Board as a whole, another ad hoc committee can be formed to address the issue.</p> <p>Ms. McMillen reminded the Board during the smoking discussion, it boiled down to the impact it had on other people, because smoking itself is a legal activity. Not being sure there is data to establish the impact on others around you would sway her decision.</p> <p>Ms. Shepard suggested further investigating the topic and looking at areas other than Kansas City for a standard, because we are leaders in our area, and looking at other communities who are pushing the envelope and pushing communities forward.</p> <p>Mr. Crawford noted San Francisco very recently outlawed the sale of vaping devices at the City level, showing there are other municipalities across the country looking at this issue.</p> <p>Ms. Kelley noted the school district is very concerned about this issue as well.</p> <p>Mr. Bivins noted there are a few municipalities noted in the article, and all of these topics are addressed in the article. He reiterated his suggestion to include a professional health entity in the process, as well as the community as a whole.</p> <p>Ms. Kelley suggested there may be a focus on the topic at this year's NRPA conference as well.</p>	
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	<p>Mr. Binney asked whether the Clean Air Ordinance applied to the Parks. He noted the Council as a whole was considering including vaping in the Clean Air Ordinance.</p> <p>Ms. McMillen noted what led the discussion on smoking was its' impact on others, and vaping could have the same sort of impact.</p> <p>Ms. Kelley reminded the Board a group of students came to the Board to discuss smoking originally. Mr. Snook noted it was a group through LS Cares, and reminded the Board the prohibition of tobacco in parks was a multi step process which has evolved over time.</p> <p>Mr. Crawford asked whether Jackson County Parks + Rec has a position on vaping in the parks. Mr. Snook noted he had not yet asked his fellow directors but indicated he would poll the group at the July 12 KCMPRDA meeting, as these topics are the type which are ideal for the group's consideration. He noted the E-Bike issue is another example of something that began at the KCMPRDA group, which can be addressed as a profession and collectively have a position.</p> <p>Mr. Binney asked where the Beautification Commission and the Tree Board would reside in the future. Mr. Snook explained the Administration Department, Glenda Masters, would be overseeing the Beautification Commission moving forward.</p> <p>Mr. Crawford explained to the Board there were concerns with the use of the word "operate" and figuring out how to define it. The specific concern was if someone had a Type 2 E-Bike which was capable of propelling itself without any user assistance, would we allow it to be used on the trails when it was not purely propelling itself. He explained the definition of "operate" addressed using the mechanism solely to power the apparatus rather than using it as an assistive device. He was also concerned the language technically prohibits the use of devices for small children, i.e. a Mickey or Minnie scooter, because technically it is a self-propelled vehicle.</p> <p>Mr. Walker asked why we are prohibiting E-Bikes, is there a problem? Mr. Snook explained the current City Ordinance already prohibits self-propelled vehicles. Mr. Walker suggested new technology comes along all the time, and the Ordinance may need to accommodate new technology if it is good. He was curious if there is a reason why we don't want E-Bikes on the trail, and what is the real harm of these devices on the trails?</p> <p>Mr. Snook explained the objective is to actually allow E-Bikes, not prohibit them, and he explained there are three types of E-Bikes: Type 1 and 3 simply assist the rider and require some physical intervention. Type 2 can go up to 20mph without any physical intervention at all, and is essentially a mini-bike or motor scooter. He noted the definition of self-propelled is how we are addressing the use of what type of vehicle is being prohibited.</p> <p>Ms. Shepard explained it was very difficult to separate out what an E-Bike is from a definition standpoint and not include or exclude an infinite number of other types of vehicles we do want to prohibit. The objective was to try to make the Ordinance as simple as possible.</p> <p>Mr. Walker noted there are individuals using the trail who ride regular bikes who go faster than 20 mph, and was not sure the speed is of significant concern.</p> <p>Ms. McMillen stated people walking on the trail getting brushed by someone on an E-Bike is not desired.</p> <p>Ms. Shepard said it is a slippery slope to not prohibit other types of vehicles, such as Vespas or dirt bikes.</p> <p>Mr. Walker suggested just saying what you can use and what you can't use, because the reason E-Bikes were created is to allow people who can't otherwise</p>	
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	<p>use the trails to have access. The intent of the greenway trails is to walk and ride bikes. You can easily put a definition in indicating you can use an E-Bike on the trail.</p> <p>Mr. Crawford noted there is only one type of E-Bike being regulated and discussed, the Type 2 which is essentially a 20mph motorcycle. The other types are not being referenced or limited.</p> <p>Mr. Walker indicated he felt like the definition was too limiting, referencing the “solely by its’ own engine” language. Ms. McCormick Heanue explained the Type 2 is the only type of E-Bike which can be operated solely by its’ own engine, which is why the definition was crafted in those terms. Mr. Snook reiterated Types 1 and 3 require pedaling to engage the mechanical system.</p> <p>Ms. Aulenbach asked what the Lovell’s donated to Longview. Mr. Snook explained there are 2 Type 1 E-Bikes at Longview.</p> <p>Mr. Snook also noted his research revealed there is no one in Lee’s Summit selling Type 2 E-Bikes. The bulk are Type 1, and Type 2 are actually very hard to find in the United States, and are predominately in Europe. He noted the cycle shops are focusing on the users who would otherwise not be able to cycle and get them a way to utilize trails.</p> <p>The intent of the proposed changes is to try to address areas in the Ordinance which currently fully prohibit and to accommodate technology that is here to stay.</p> <p>Mr. Walker suggested a footnote or comment to indicate clearly what types of E-Bikes are actually allowed.</p> <p>Mr. Snook suggested we could have a Park Rule clarifying this for patrons. We can give clarifications of the Ordinance through the use of rules, but the Ordinance needs to be representative of the community trend and can more easily adapt to technology by not using specifics.</p> <p>Mr. Crawford asked Mr. Walker whether amending the motion to include a contemporaneous rule. Mr. Walker indicated he was comfortable approving the Ordinance language as long as the Board is all comfortable passing a rule at the next meeting addressing the issue.</p> <p>Mr. Snook stated there is nothing pressing this issue, and staff can bring back a clarification of the E-Bike restrictions at the next meeting so everything can be approved at once.</p> <p>Ms. Shepard said she understands his concerns and reiterated this was the reason the discussion at the Ad Hoc Committee meeting was so in depth.</p> <p>Ms. Aulenbach asked whether it was necessary to approve the Beautification Commission portion tonight. Ms. McCormick Heanue explained it was not necessary, and the City was working on its’ own amendments but was unsure of when it will ultimately go forward. Those amendments will necessarily remove the Beautification Commission sections from the Parks chapter as well.</p> <p>Ms. McMillen asked why the word “unlawful” was used so much in the language. Mr. Snook explained the Ordinance actually becomes the law for the City.</p>	
OLD BUSINESS		
Projects and Services Review	Supporting documentation (see pages 52-60.) No questions or discussion.	No Board Action.
Capital Projects Plan through 2019	<p>Supporting documentation (see pages 61-79.)</p> <p>Hartman Park Trailhead: Mr. Casey reported the project is essentially complete and staff is wrapping up a few items. The June 3, 2019 Ribbon Cutting event was</p>	No Board Action.



	<p>very successful. He indicated the project was a good lead in to the Trails Master Plan project. A public open house meeting was held last week, and the consultants and staff met with stakeholders. An online survey is being developed to seek additional feedback. This project will carry through most of the summer. Jackson County is getting ready to break ground on the second phase of the Rock Island Trail, and they estimate about a year and a half construction time. He noted this would carry the trail from Lee's Summit through Kansas City, and a good portion of this phase will be off the existing rail bed.</p> <p>Mr. Snook noted Councilmember Binney was instrumental in ensuring there was money available for this project through the CIP and the renewal of the Transportation Sales Tax.</p> <p>Summit and Howard Park Improvements: Renovations are moving forward. May was not a good month weather-wise, so June has been a catch up month. Timetable to complete both projects is currently targeted for early October.</p> <p>Lowenstein Park Improvements: Staff is engaged in meetings with the Developer and its' consultants about how the development will interface with the Park. The closure of Lowenstein Drive has been completed and the west (upper) parking lot is open, the park is accessible from Black Twig Drive, but there is a lot of activity and several disruptions currently. The capital improvements and development improvements will be very good. RFP is being developed for playground renovations and functional fitness.</p> <p>Mr. Snook reported the sewer line is being installed through the park currently, so it is a bit of a mess, but the contractors are doing a very good job of trying to keep the park open and accessible. The contractors anticipate the sewer portion should take about a week.</p> <p>Mr. Crawford asked about the timetable for the Lowenstein project, and what will the development eventually be, as this project has a lot of interest in the public. Mr. Casey reported the expected timeline for the portion of work being performed by the Developer's contractor in the park is approximately September – October 2019. Staff will work concurrently with this timeline for the improvements and amenities LSPR is including. He anticipates the work in the park will be complete late fall.</p> <p>Mr. Binney reported the contractor has 6 months to deliver the first lots, which are the apartment complex lots.</p> <p>Mr. Casey noted there has been a lot of misinformation about the status of the project, including there was a sale of park property. He explained this is not accurate, the development is encroaching on park property in exchange for significant improvements but there has been no sale of land.</p> <p>Ms. Shepard says the comments she received include "is the park gone" because it doesn't look like it used to.</p> <p>Mr. Snook reminded the Board to redirect inquiries to staff so consistent and accurate information can be conveyed and the misinformation can be corrected.</p> <p>Wave Pool @ Summit Waves: Mr. Dean reported the project is progressing, and conditional approval of the Final Development Plan was received late last week. He also noted the bid is currently out on the street and several questions have been submitted, which suggests lots of interest. The hope is to have a proposal for Board approval in July.</p>	
Fundraising Update	Supporting documentation (see pages 80-82.) No questions or discussion.	No Board Action.
Beautification Commission Report	Supporting documentation (see pages 83-87.) Mr. Snook reported this report would be the last one the Park Board would receive, and the official responsibility will transfer to the City's Administration Department on July 1. He explained he	No Board Action.



	<p>and Mr. Arbo met with the Commission at their June meeting to assure them staff would be available through the transition phase and would continue to support the efforts of the Beautification Commission in a new role.</p> <p>Mr. Binney asked whether the tree issues have been reconsidered. Mr. Snook reported the ordinance in place is the tree plan but the Administration Department will be looking into more.</p>	
Wi-Fi in Parks Installation Update	<p>Supporting documentation (see pages 88-89.) Ms. Culbertson reported the last location, Longview, is still operating through the business class agreement signed in October. There are two different areas of Spectrum she is coordinating with to finalize the free WiFi.</p> <p>Mr. Crawford asked why Charter/Spectrum is providing this WiFi service for free. Ms. Culbertson indicated the presumption is the company wants to encourage use at home, and it is a marketing tool. Mr. Snook noted there is no marketing taking place and they are not using information to market to people to become customers. Mr. Snook reported he believed Charter/Spectrum were trying to have an impact on the Google Fiber market dominance. He also explained the existing Charter/Spectrum customers get unlimited WiFi in the parks, while non-customers only get one hour per day.</p> <p>Ms. Kelley asked whether the signs showing we have WiFi recognize Spectrum. Mr. Snook indicated they do receive recognition.</p> <p>Mr. Binney explained the regulatory filings also include information about the good will gestures of entities like Spectrum.</p>	No Board Action.
NEW BUSINESS		
End of Activity Reports	No End of Activity Reports Presented. No questions or discussion.	No Board Action.
PATRON COMMENT REVIEW		
<p>Supporting documentation (see pages 90-98.) Mr. Crawford pointed out to the comment from Ms. Ross and asked whether there was any follow up. Mr. Dean explained Mike Hedrick has reached out to Ms. Ross several times but has received no response. He also mentioned Ms. Chriswell's comment, and Mr. Snook explained it was a G-String/thong. He noted the patron received a refund of her entry fee when she refused to put her shorts on over the bathing suit, and also noted the patron who wrote the comment was not even at the facility. Mr. Crawford asked whether there was a rule or policy and Mr. Snook explained there is a rule which says attire must be appropriate. This issue is addressed several times a year and it is rarely challenged. Ms. Shepard asked about the interaction with Ryan about the camp payment system. She noted the system of paying is challenging and you have to remember. She suggested a way to automatically charge for the weeks campers will attend. Mr. Snook explained a practice like this would put staff at risk, and Ms. Culbertson noted LSPR does not store credit card information. Ms. Price noted there is a reminder sent out every week. Ms. Shepard suggested an auto payment system of some sort to increase convenience and efficiency in the future. Mr. Snook indicated staff would look into options to help with payment options. Ms. Kelley asked whether the son is still attending and Ms. Price indicated he was and there do not appear to be any other issues.</p>		
MONTHLY CALENDARS		
<p>Supporting documentation (see pages 99-100.) Ms. Kelley asked what the What's Next Fest was. Ms. Price explained this was one of the partnership events with the Mid Continent Public Library and showcases new up and coming bands in the area, similar to our summer concerts, with a target audience of evenings or weekends that attract families. Mr. Crawford thanked Joe and Tede for the June 14, 2019 Summit Fest event, which seemed like a good turnout and a lot of people who came out to the park who had never been there before. He noted the good range of music and stated it was a very good event. Mr. Snook explained 26 bands applied, and staff narrowed it down to 5, with 3 being from Lee's Summit and more than 500 patrons attending the event.</p>		
STAFF ROUNDTABLE		
<p>Mr. Snook noted a special concert tomorrow (Thursday) at 7pm, Patriot Concert, who are all members of the 135th National Army Guard band. This was a free event and an example of another good partnership for the use of the Amphitheater.</p> <p>Mr. Snook reminded the Board Legacy Blast is next Wednesday.</p> <p>He also reminded the Board of the next Quarterly Employee Breakfast scheduled for July 10, 2019 at Gamber Community Center at 7:30am, where anniversary milestones and the Employee of the Quarter will be recognized.</p> <p>Mr. Snook informed the Board the City has just completed its' most recent citywide survey. Staff is currently reviewing the report which is about 275 pages, and will be boiling down the report to Parks related information. The boiled down report will be sent via PDF to the Board once complete. He noted Parks fared very favorably and the report contains good comparators to metro and national agencies. Another comparison in the report is the prior responses from prior surveys. Scores for all three surveys conducted by ETC are listed which provides some helpful information to consider.</p>		



Summit Waves operations are struggling this year due to the weather challenges, especially given this is the 2nd wettest year in recorded history. As of Monday, the facility is approximately 8,000 visits/\$100,000.00 below revenue currently. Staff is doing everything we can to minimize losses but the unfavorable weather is causing the facility to struggle thus far.

Longview Community Center currently has 2,993 members, and gave his kudos to Jodi and her staff for the aggressive membership drive which really enhanced signups. Staff is working hard to hit 4,000 by the end of the year.

Mr. Snook provided an update on the possibility of the Landfill project. He noted there was some discussion at the Public Works Committee meeting last night advising public about the possibility of parks taking a part in the reuse in the future. He asked the Board to please redirect inquiries related to this project to Joe.

Ms. Price explained the kids bike event, Trick a Bike has been moved from October to July and has changed format. The event will now be called Unplug and Pedal. Friday July 26, 2019 at 7:30pm. Participants will receive a glow bracelet, a sticker at halfway point, and ice cream sundaes at the end of the race. The event will take place around the 5 mile loop beginning at the Legacy Park Amphitheater.

BOARD ROUNDTABLE

Ms. Kelley reported the By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee met on Monday.

Ms. Kelley, Ms. Shepard and Mr. Walker thanked Ms. McCormick Heanue for her work on the Ordinance and By-Laws projects and preparing the information for the Ad Hoc Committees to complete their work.

Mr. Binney reported the ETC Citizen's Survey is completed by a local firm but is done nationally and ETC is a leader in the industry. The provide data that is scientifically valid, and the same questions asked every time, so differences are easily seen. The interesting thing about Lee's Summit is we don't do these surveys as often as some municipalities and don't make popularity based decisions.

Mr. Binney also expressed his thanks to Park Board and volunteers for their efforts in putting on Tour de Lakes efforts and reported it was a great event.

Mr. Binney reported the July 2, 2019 Council Meeting has been cancelled.

Mr. Binney noted he is looking forward to the trails master plan project.

Ms. Aulenbach thanked staff and the Board for the time and efforts and acknowledged the sacrifices made in putting in the extra time for the important work.

OTHER ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

None.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bivins made a motion pursuant to Section 610.021 (3) of the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri pertaining to hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded and pursuant to Section 610.021 (13) of the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri pertaining to individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment and pursuant to Section 610.021(1) of the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri pertaining to legal actions, causes of action, or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys to move into Closed Session; seconded by Mr. Walker. Roll Call: Aye – Ms. Aulenbach, Mr. Bivins, Ms. Kelley, Mr. Walker, Ms. Shepard, Mr. Crawford, Ms. McMillen; Absent – Mr. Morehead, Mr. Huser. Regular Session adjourned.