

City of Olivette Parks & Recreation Commission

MINUTES | January 20, 2021

MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

1. Roll Call

Quorum established via Zoom meeting at 7:04 pm

Commissioners Present: Kastner, Heuermann, Patterson, Person, Rich and Sandhu

Commissioner Absent: Lee

Also Present: City Councilmember Waldman; and Parks & Recreation Director Tucker Knight, and Assistant Parks & Recreation Director, Don LaChance.

2. Hearing from Citizens – None

3. Communications– None

4. Minutes

On a MOTION by HEUERMANN, SECOND by RICH, Minutes of November 18, 2020 APPROVED (6-0)

5. Parks & Recreation Director Report

Director Tucker Knight reported on:

a. Urban Dark Sky Certification- Stacy Park

The City Council unanimously approved the application to certify Stacy Park an Urban Dark Sky location on Jan 12, 2021. Gloria Whyte, Incoming President of Olivette in Bloom spoke at the Council meeting in support of the application. Staff and the PARC Chair are working with volunteer Stephanie Todd to submit the application

b. Virtual Programs.

A second exercise class is now up and running via Zoom. The City's longest running class, Strength, Tone & Fitness, started the week of January 11. With the success both technology and participant accessibly-wise, staff are now calling instructors individually and inviting them to bring their classes back virtually.

c. Winter Basketball Clinic

It was determined that the Community Center gym is not large enough to accommodate a youth basketball clinic within the County Health guidelines and make it financially viable for a contract vendor. Therefore, no basketball clinic will be offered this winter.

d. Spring Baseball

Staff is exploring the option of running a baseball clinic in place of a league similar to fall soccer.

e. Little Free Libraries

Eagle Scout candidate Brendan Casserly completed installing the three Little Free Libraries in his project at Indian Meadows, Irv Zeid and Villa Parks. Staff and Brendan placed books in all of the libraries. The Stacy Little Free Library donated by K.A.R.E Camp will be installed the week of January 19th. The Community Center LFL was removed for repair, however, after examining it, the wood could not be saved. A new library was purchased by the City and will also be installed the week of January 19th, weather permitting

f. Girl Scout Troop

Third grade Brownie Troop 4345 from Old Bonhomme held a clean-up event at Stacy Park on January 1. Their parent volunteer, Lisa Moons, reported that "the girls had a lot of fun cleaning up and observed that the park was actually pretty clean! They found lots of cigarette butts which provided a good opportunity to talk about health as we walked :) It was awesome to see them take some pride and ownership in their community and it was a great activity for all. We'd love to do it again in the Spring." Staff said yes to that!

Ms. Moons provided photos of the Brownies for social media and they are a top-rated post on the City's Facebook page!

g. Stacy Prairie Prescribed Burn

The first attempt for the Stacy Park Prairie Prescribed Burn is Tuesday, January 19th at 10:30 am with the back-up date of Thursday, January 21st, at the same time. The Burn Boss is Gerald Axelbaum, staff lead is Horticulturist Brian Azcona. The approved Burn Permits have been received from the County

6. City Council Report

Councilmember Waldman reported the annual Council Retreat will be held at the end of March. The municipal election for City Council will be held on Tuesday, April 1. There are two candidates.

7. Park Master Plan Implementation

The Commission reviewed the park concept phasing plans and made recommendations for improving the images for the public meeting presentations to make the phasing clearer. In particular the layering the trees in Warson Park. The Commission also recommended taking a closer look routing of walking pathway at Stacy near the vehicle service entrance of the reservoir to improve safety. Staff will forward the recommendations to the landscape architect. The Commission also reviewed the design and construction timeline and the new micro website on the park projects prior to it's release. Staff provided an overview of the marketing process for the public meetings including direct mail postcard, yard signs, and social media campaign.

8. 2021 Draft Parks & Recreation Commission Work Plan

Chair, Jim Person, presented the updated draft annual work plan and will create a shared googledoc for Commissioners to use to indicated which working groups they will join.

9. Future Agenda Items

- Annual Work Plan
- Memorial Policy
- Park Tree Update

c. Upcoming Dates of Importance

- January 27, 2021 PMP/Prop C Public Meetings on Warson Park and new Community Center
- February 10, 2021 PMP/Prop C Public Meeting on Indian Meadows, Irz Zeid, Stacy & Villa Parks.
- February 13, 2021 Weed Warriors

d. **Adjournment** – On a MOTION by HEUERMANN, SECOND by KASTNER, meeting was ADJOURNED (7-0) at 8:40 pm