



PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

September 13th, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m.
SERGEANT BLUFF COMMUNITY CENTER
903 TOPAZ DRIVE- FIRESIDE ROOM

Meeting called to order at 5:33 p.m.

ATTENDING WERE:

Present: Gloria Hawks, Cyndi Nelson, Kirk Moriarty, Neil Stockfleth, Angie Van Otterloo, Colin Tague

Absent:

Others attending: Tyler Tweet, Parks & Recreation Director
Nick Venesky, Rec Coordinator
Andrea Johnson--City Council Member
Jim Linafelter--City Council Member

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Hawks, seconded by Stockfleth to approve the agenda.
All ayes, motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Stockfleth, seconded by Moriarty to approve the May 17th minutes.
All ayes, motion carried.

REVENUE & EXPENDITURE REPORT

No major expenses since the new budget in July.

1. Other

- a) **Introduce Nick-** Hired as the new Recreation Coordinator. Graduated in sports management and interned at Sioux City Parks and Recreation.
- b) **Review new parks board ordinance-** Neil had some questions regarding the new ordinance and Andrea and Jim, the council representatives, explained why the ordinance was changed.
- c) **Little League proposal-** Little League would like the city to pay a 3rd which is between \$7 to 8,000 to replace the home plates at B street and the Rec Center Fields. Little League has proposed this project and is wanting to split the cost between them, softball, and the city. There was discussion about using the lighting fund to do this project and the left-over money will be used towards improvements. There was also discussion about getting the score boards fixed. Angie did mention that Jason Gehling said that every 3 years the new home plates would need some work for upkeep on them.

A motion was made by Moriarty, seconded by Hawks to give Little League a 3rd of the project up to \$8,000.

All ayes, motion carried.

2. Parks

- a) **Playground equipment for B St-** NE corner there is about 25 feet by 40ish feet to put some playground equipment. There was discussion about what kind of playground to put in. A one piece of playground equipment, multiple pieces of equipment, music items, etc. They advised to put a single piece of equipment in at B street. There was discussion about what would be put under the playground. Also, talked about contacting CF for grants for the playground.

3. Community Center

- a) **Court rentals-** 6 to 8 teams are already looking for court rentals and to rent the court it's \$20 for Sgt. Bluff teams per hour and \$40 for out-of-town teams. Majority of players must be from Sgt. Bluff to be considered a Sgt. Bluff team. So, if there is a ten-man team, 6 of those players need to be from Sgt. Bluff.

4. Recreation

- a) **Fall sports review & potential changes for next year-** Running into teams that have come down from the YMCA to join our flag football league and that's good for us because it shows that our program has been good, but it's not good for us because the games are going too late in the afternoon. There are only two flag football fields and so looking into maybe using the green space by the splash pad. Soccer is up in numbers this year, but still manageable. We are struggling to find referees because the high school kids don't like getting yelled at by the parents, so they don't want to work. Storm Throne had done a skills camp last year and rented courts and hosted it himself. He was wondering if he opens that up to the community if we would waive his rental fees so he can reduce the price of the program. The board stated that if he doesn't charge for the camp the rental fee can be waived, but if he charges, he needs to roll the rental fees into his costs.
- b) **Adult Volleyball-** The flyer will be put out Friday and we have already been contacted by 3 teams that played last year that want to play again this year. These games will be played on Friday nights at the Rec center.
- c) **Fall Events (trick or treat trail, spooky fest, haunted rec trail, battle of the badges fundraiser, food drive, turkey trot)-** Going to do the trick or treat trail, spooky fest, going to do a haunted rec trail. Last year we did a haunted pool house and just trying to change it up to keep things fresh. Tyler would like to do battle of the badges again this year because last year we kind of spearheaded that for the Fire department and Police department but we got it out late last year so he would like to try and get that going in November to December. Last year Tyler had the Fire Chief and Police Chief chose a charity that they wanted to raise funds for. Andrea asked if Tyler needed businesses to come in for the trick or treat trail. He stated yes, he gets a letter ready asking if they would like to participate and gets them mailed out. In November we are partnering up with the food bank to do a food drive and then we will also do a turkey trot again.

5. Pool

- a) **Season review & potential changes for next season-** Tyler stated that if his math is correct, he thinks we saved about \$20,000 with the changes made this last year. The changes that were made we are going to be keeping in place. This year we had a lot more issues with staffing until Labor Day. We could not get enough kids. We had to close the slide down pretty much every day because we need to have a minimum of 4 lifeguards. The max amount of people that showed up to the pool was 26 and that

was on one of the hottest days. Other days were 8 people, or 4 people. There was discussion about looking at being open only on the weekends after school starts. Tyler will talk to council about making that change. Rentals were about the same as last year. Swim lessons was down a little bit. For swimming lessons next year, we are looking at switching the schedule around a little bit so we can not do lessons on the 4th of July week. Lessons are down that week anyways due to families being on vacation or etc. Anna Coffee who was the pool manager did a fantastic job with the kids and she will be returning next year. It was a pretty good pool season!

6. Club 55+

- a) **In house programming and outside organizations-** Doing some more in house programming. Cyndi has come on part time and is going to be taking over the senior/adult programming to try and get some more events in here for us. Meals in the evenings, board games, Christmas light tours in the winter, things like that. We are also going to be working with Iowa City extension or Connections. There was discussion regarding Club 55+ and how that is going.

7. Project Updates

- a) **Dog Park-** The fencing is up now. Jason was able to find some funds to get Cardis to put that fencing in and public works is working on putting grass in and then once they give me the go, we will open that up. Talked with Kirk about signage for the dog park. He is going to donate some signage as far as hours, when its available, and responsibility of people. Need to look at putting some equipment in at the dog park. Kirk is wondering if we can remove the grill and trash bin by it. Also, wanting to know if there is something we can do about the warped picnic table. Discussed the entry gate being too small/tight. Discussed about putting up a donation center with envelopes for people to take with them and mail in a check for dog park improvements. Angie suggested contacting PetSmart to see if they would be interested in donating equipment for the dog park. Kirk also asked about painting the shelter.
- b) **Kiwanis-** They brought in an engineer to talk with a contractor to get something in the bottom so we can get it filled. There was discussion about different things to try to do to get the bottom covered so the pond can get filled.
- c) **AV-** Spoke to Midstate's last week. They are just waiting for our video switches; they have everything else ready and in stock.

OPEN DISCUSSION (No action may be taken) Please limit discussion of each item to 10 minutes.

Jimmy Linafelter suggested that the Parks Board should bring the idea of putting a playground/splash pad over by Riverbend up to the council. There is a lot of kids that live in that area. However, the city does not own that land so there would be a process to making that happen. There was discussion about different things regarding Jimmy's suggestion.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Tague, seconded by Moriarty to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm.
All ayes, motion carried.

Peyton Bainbridge, Acting Secretary

Tyler Tweet, Chair