

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
June 29, 2022
Minutes

Members Present:

Loren Anthony
Tyson Nielsen
Brett Remsberg
Debi LaForge
Russ McCaig

Members Absent:

Visitors:

Commission Representative:

Kendra Wilkinson

Staff Present:

Kevin Wishart Tabitha Sharp

Russ moved to accept the March 28, 2022 minutes as presented.
Tyson seconded the motion.
Motion carried 5 – 0.

Baseball/Softball Report

- Kevin stated that the last games are scheduled for July the 7th if there are not weather issues. El Dorado had 67 rescheduled games primarily because of weather.
- Kevin stated that there have been many challenges with the people attending games this year.
- Kendra asked if anyone had been kicked out.
- Kevin stated that there had been several ejections, all visitors. He stated that locals have been feisty, but haven't had to be kicked out.
- Russ asked how the umpires were.
- Kevin stated that one came and asked to be done for the year, we were able to get him through the remainder of the season. He stated that it has been rough on all of the staff.
- Russ asked if they are still required to go through the SAGE information with parents.
- Kevin stated that each team has a designated person to make sure that parents receive that information.
- Loren asked how are coaches have been.
- Kevin stated that we had one El Dorado coach ejected from a game in another City.
- Tyson asked if they still follow the rule of three ejections and the team forfeits.
- Kevin stated that it was still a rule. He stated that here, it has mostly been issues with spectators and assistant coaches.
- Kevin stated that the teams are doing well, most are in the middle or above in terms of wins and losses.
- Loren asked what the numbers were.
- Kevin stated that we are down about 10% from the peak before COVID. He stated that there were several that couldn't be placed because they came in after the League deadline. He stated that we have considered leaving the league we are in, but we can't make the numbers work without some of the other teams in the current league.

Park Projects

- Kevin stated that staff have replaced the old swings at East Park have been repainted. Splash pads at North Main and Graham have had some updates with the help of some excess sales tax money.
- Tyson asked what's happening with the East Park pond.
- Kevin stated that they are treating the algae problem, but it can only be done a bit at a time. The fountain is off until the algae issue is fixed. Mulch prices have gone way up, but we are working to try and place mulch in all of the playground areas. Staff are working to finish cleaning up the area at Riverview. He stated that staff are looking into the possibility of beach volleyball at North Main near the new playground.
- Kevin stated that Brian has been tasked with cleaning up the disc golf course at the Legion. He stated that the plan is to go to 18 baskets at the Legion. He stated that he asked the Engineering Department to come up with a novice course at RIO Park. He stated that there is space and they have extra baskets from what is being removed at the Legion. He asked the committee for their thoughts.
- Loren asked how parking would be managed.
- Kevin stated that they don't anticipate a huge need for parking, but there is a grass area south of the proposed hole number one.
- Tyson moved to go forward with nine-hole novice course.
- Russ seconded.
- Motion carried.
- Loren asked if there would be a parking lot.
- Kevin stated that they would wait and see what the traffic was like.

Pool Update

- Kevin stated that the pool is open, but the big slide is gone.
- Debi asked why the big slide was gone.
- Kevin stated that the electrical issues with it were worse than those with the lights. He stated that it was at the end of its useful life anyways.
- Kendra asked how attendance has been.
- Kevin stated that opening day there were 481. The average for the first week was 283. He stated that it is a dollar to get in daily, passes are reduced as well. He stated that there were 18 guards hired, 13 returned when the pool opened. There need to be nine guards in order to operate properly. He stated that they had all but one concession worker return, the biggest problem is that we haven't been able to get stock.

Upcoming Events/Activities

- Kevin stated that the 4th of July event begins at 9 a.m. on Monday. The free swim from 1 to 4 p.m. Fireworks will be after the Walnuts game, there are still tickets available for the game.
- Kevin stated that staff are going to offer youth pickleball for two weeks at the end of July. He stated that it will be \$10, the flyer will go out Friday.

New Business

- Tyson stated that the ball fields look phenomenal.
- Tyson asked if events scheduled during the school year could include information about the parking lot.

Director's Report

- Kevin stated that as everyone is probably aware, the softball coach at Butler has left. He stated that staff will be visiting with the college on how the agreement will proceed from here, he believed that our staff would be in charge of the maintenance moving forward.
- Kevin stated that the Parks and Rec Department will change their hours to 7:30 to 5 Monday thru Thursday and 7:30 to noon on Friday during July.
- Kevin stated that the hanging baskets are starting to disappear randomly. He stated that vandalism has been less, but thefts have been up.

Election of Chairperson & Vice-Chairperson

- Brett nominated Loren for Chair, Russ seconded the motion. Carried.
- Loren nominated Tyson for Vice Chair, Debi seconded the motion. Carried.

Adjournment at 7:09 p.m.