

Parks and Recreation

Board Minutes

January 8, 2018

APPROVED AS AMMENDED

On January 8, 2018 the meeting of the Ashland Park Board was called to order by Mayor Rhorer at 109 East Broadway, Ashland, Missouri at 6:02 p.m.

Board Members present were Cynthia Wills, Tracy Banning, Pamela Dees, Tracy Eichhorn, Marilyn McGuire, and Alderman Jesse Bronson. Also present were Mayor Gene Rhorer, City Administrator Lyn Woolford and Administrative Assistant Carrie Fischer.

Board Member Absent: David Mars.

Guests: None

Mayor Rhorer called for a motion to approve the agenda for January 8, 2018. Motion was made by Board member Cynthia Wills and seconded by Board member Marilyn McGuire to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Mayor Rhorer called for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 6, 2017 meeting. Motion was made by Board member Cynthia Wills and seconded by Board Member Pamela Dees to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Mayor Rhorer called for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2017 meeting. Motion was made by Board Member Cynthia Wills and seconded by Board Member Pamela Dees to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Guest Comments: None

New Business:

1. Election of Officers: Mayor Rhorer called for nominations for Chairperson. Board Member Cynthia Will offered herself up for the position of Chairwoman. With no opposition or any other nominations, Cynthia Wills will hold the office of Chairwoman. Mayor Rhorer called for nominations for Vice-Chairperson. Board Member Tracy Banning offered herself up for the position of Vice-Chairwoman. With no opposition or any other nominations, Tracy Banning will hold the office of Vice-Chairwoman.
2. Easter egg Hunt: Tracy Eichhorn had spoken with Sandy Robinson-Harris regarding the Easter egg hunt. She informed the board that in the past, they had received candy from Moser's, Hy-Vee and Sam's. After some discussion, it was decided to purchase the candy this year using "Friends of the City" funds. Vice-Chairwoman Tracy Banning made a motion to have the Easter egg hunt on March 31st at 2:00 pm using the Middle School annex in case of inclement weather, seconded by Board Member Tracy Eichhorn. Motion carried. Board Member Tracy Eichhorn will get in touch with

Stephanie Jackson from ~~Harvest Time~~ Ashland Assembly of God church for assistance with stuffing the Easter eggs.

3. Park Sign: City Administrator Lyn Woolford spoke briefly about the park sign. He stated it would be approximately \$174 to redo the park sign. He also stated Administrative Assistant Carrie Fischer will get pictures of the sign and suggested to table the discussion is until the February meeting..

Old Business:

1. Christmas Parade: Board Member Pamela Dees stated that overall, she felt it was a very nice event and was pleased with the turnout. City Administrator Lyn Woolford stated that the tree that has been used the past several years at the Edward Jones location across the street is no longer a feasible location. The event has grown and congests the downtown area too much. He is suggesting the event be moved permanently to the park as it is a Park Board function. There was some discussion regarding the 14" ft. artificial tree from Temple Display versus a real tree. After some discussion regarding a real or artificial tree, Board Member Pamela Dees made a motion to have a real tree for the 2018 Christmas parade event and was seconded by Board Member Marilyn McGuire. Vote was called for and motion was defeated. Board Member Tracy Eichhorn made a motion to purchase the 14" ft. artificial tree and was seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Tracy Banning. Motion carried. Chairwoman Cynthia Wills stated that Sandy Robinson-Harris had arranged use of trailers in the past and City Administrator Lyn Woolford said there would be no problem getting tractor and trailers for the event.
2. Brick Memorial: Chairwoman Cynthia Wills had two handouts to give the Board Members showing her idea and location for the brick memorial which she is proposing to be called "Eagle Walk" One suggestion she had was using the school entrance by the ballfield for the brick walk area. Another option would be by the gazebo. She is also suggesting to use the bricks as a fund-raising effort. Mayor Rhorer stated after this topic leaves the Park Board, it will go to the Board of Aldermen for their approval and they will need to know what to expect from the paver area, where the space will be, who will maintain the area and how much will the cost be for maintenance. Chairwoman Cynthia Wills suggested promoting the pavers to the public for honoring a loved one or something of the like. She asked if this idea was something the Park Board wanted to pursue. Board Member Marilyn McGuire stated there needed to be more details figured out as to not just end up with a bunch of bricks with no set plan or area. Once the bricks are purchased, the installation and maintenance would then fall on the Public Works department for upkeep. Board Member Marilyn McGuire made a motion to table the discussion to the February meeting to gather more details. Board Member Tracy Eichhorn seconded the motion and motion carried.
3. Gold Star Memorial: Board Member Marilyn McGuire stated the location of the Gold Star Memorial would be on the north side of the the butterfly garden in Palomino Park. The Gold Star Memorial is to honor any person who died in combat during any time of service in the military. Names of individuals will not be listed on the plaque. She also stated that the Garden Club is asking for approval to place the plaque in Palomino Park but would take care of maintaing the plaque.
4. Harvest Festival: Board Member Tracy Eichhorn had a list of people who have volunteered to serve on a steering committee for the Harvest Festival and they are as follows: Tracy Eichhorn, Kellye McCord, Robin Shaon, Tracy Banning, Jason Reynolds, Todd Pridemore, and Melissa Karotka. Mayor Rhorer stated that there was \$3000 allocated in last year's budget for an

event but that money was not utilized. Board Member Tracy Eichhorn inquired as to the hierarchy in forming the steering committee and what actions they are able to make regarding the Harvest Festival. She also stated that the committee needed to figure out the focus and get vendor letters out ASAP. Mayor Rhorer stated that all decisions must be approved by the Park Board regarding the Harvest Festival. All vendor fees and checks need to be made payable to "Friends of the City" to be properly allocated. Mayor Rhorer also stated if the Park/Storm water tax passed, it would also generate some revenue for the parks but could possibly be 2019 before any of that money was available.

Discussion: City Administrator Lyn Woolford addressed the solar lighting handout. The solar lighting could be spaced out to light several areas at the park. The lighting would be about 8 ft. in height and require no wiring or trenching to install. Board Member Marilyn McGuire noted the park hours are 5 am - 10 pm but the lighting would be a nice addition.

Individual Reports:

None.

City Administrator's Report: City Administrator asked for a budget proposal for the year to take to the Board of Alderman and would like to have it by March.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Rhorer spoke regarding the tax that will be on the April Ballot that will benefit parks and storm water. There is roughly \$40,000 spent on parks per year. Generally, in small cities, there is no park tax until the city reaches a certain size and Ashland has reached that capacity. The Park Board, up to this point, has functioned out of the general fund. Big areas vying for use of general revenue are law enforcement, public safety and city maintenance. The ballot proposal will be for a half-cent sales tax. Half will go to parks and half will go toward storm water. The public has to be educated, not promoted, for the idea of a tax. If it passes, it could potentially generate \$80,000 for the Park Board. The general fund operating budget is usually between \$1.4-\$1.7 million every year. Carrie will have the pamphlet to hand out at the February meeting.

Motion was made by Board Member Tracy Eichhorn and seconded by Board Member Tracy Banning to adjourn the meeting at 7:28p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes taken by Carrie Fischer, Administrative Assistant