

Parks and Recreation

Board Minutes

February 12, 2018

On February 12, 2018 the meeting of the Ashland Park Board was called to order by Chairperson Cynthia Wills at 109 East Broadway, Ashland, Missouri at 6:00 p.m.

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

Board Member Absent: Marilyn McGuire.

Guests: Girl Scout Troop #70839

Chairperson Wills called for a motion to approve the agenda for February 12, 2018. Motion was made by Board Member Dees to approve the agenda and seconded by Board Member Eichhorn. Motion carried.

Chairperson Wills called for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2018 meeting. Motion was made by Board Member Mars to approve the minutes as corrected and seconded by Board Member Dees. Motion carried.

Guest Comments: Girls Scout Troop #70839 addressed the Board regarding their participation in wanting to assist in educating the community on the need for the park/storm water tax. Their goal is to build as well as raise funds to purchase new playground equipment for the park. Some of the way they plan to raise money is to start a "Go Fund Me" account, do car washes and babysitting for parents in the community to "have a night out". One idea they would like to see added to the park is a climber/rock wall, something more appealing to the 6th-7th graders. Phase one of their plan includes the girls educating the community to vote YES for the tax. Phase two; they will begin raising the funds to assist with park equipment. Should the tax not pass, the girls will proceed with phase 2 of raising funds. Chairperson Wills asked for a motion to support the Girls Scout Troop #70839 with their aid in getting the word out in the community. Board Member Eichhorn made a motion, seconded by Board Member Banning. Motion carried. The girls also briefly spoke on wanting to do some type of brick pathway around the area of the new equipment but will hold off on that for a while.

New Business:

1. Park/Storm Water Tax: All Board Members received the brochure in their packet. There were a couple of editing marks suggested for the brochure. After some discussion, it was decided that due to time constraints, the brochure is acceptable with a few minor changes. Motion was made by Board Member Banning made a motion to accept the brochure with minor changes and was seconded by Board Member Eichhorn. Motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Easter Egg Hunt: Stephanie Jackson from Ashland Assembly of God Church has all of the Easter eggs and will get the candy and get them filled. She is also checking into the equipment to have on hand to take and print pictures for kids to take with them. Board Member Eichhorn handed out an Easter Egg Hunt flyer to all the board members. Board Member Eichhorn will send it to Carrie to get them printed to send home in Friday folders in the Primary and Elementary. She will also send the ad to Bruce Wallace at the Boone County Journal for a quote. There was some discussion regarding raffle baskets.
2. Harvest Festival: Board Member Eichhorn stated that the steering committee is proposing a name change to the Harvest Fest. She also stated that other towns have festival names that are "associated" with their town/area so they would like a name that is more closely associated with Ashland. Board Member McCord suggested going back to using "Ashland Fall Fest". Board Member Banning made a motion to change the name of the "Harvest Festival" to "Ashland Fall Fest" and was seconded by Board Member McCord. Motion carried. Board Member Banning handed out a copy of the vendor application for the board to look over. Board Member Eichhorn said that she had spoken to Barrett Glascock and he has offered the use of the Optimist Building parking lots the day of the festival if there is not an event being held at that location and that they could use some more volunteers on the steering committee. Mayor Rhorer spoke briefly about marking off vendor spots and what all that would entail. Board Member Eichhorn said the high school will be doing a poster contest for advertisement and she asked the board to be thinking of businesses to ask about sponsorships. There was some discussion regarding the budget for the event. Board Member's Eichhorn and Banning had done a rough budget of all monies allocated for Park Board events. Board Member Eichhorn also stated that there is some grant money available through the Missouri Arts Council since there will be music/art vendors at the Fall Fest. The YMCA will be doing a 5K the morning of the Fall Fest, the art group will have an activity for kids, Mizzou Raptor will be doing a demonstration and Boone County Hams is a quartet that isn't too expensive and has who also contacted a couple of bands regarding evening entertainment. Board Member Banning has contacted the Saddle Club to see if they would be willing to do pony rides and what the cost would be for that. They will meet in March and get back to her with that information. Another idea for consideration is some type of food competition.
3. Brick Memorial: Discussion tabled to a later meeting.

Discussion: City Administrator Lyn Woolford stated that the training, "Conducting City Business" could be broken into different sessions. The first half of the training will be tonight and the second half at the next meeting.

Individual Reports:

Chairperson Wills gave a power point presentation on the various parks and their locations. She asked the board if there should be a charge for the rental of pavilions at the park. Since this item was not on the agenda, it will be tabled until next meeting.

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 McCord and seconded by Board Member Banning to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes taken by Carrie Fischer, Administrative Assistant