



**KIRKWOOD PARK BOARD
MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2014
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER
111 S. GEYER ROAD, ROOM 202
MEETING MINUTES**

In attendance: John Baker, Tom Riggs, Steve Coates, Rick Bagy, Scott Stream, Kirk Hutchison, Wallace Ward, Kate LeGrand

Staff: Murray Pounds, Curt Carron

Excused: Carol Gilster

Park Board meeting convened at 7: 03 p.m., chaired by John Baker.

I. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

II. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Motion made by Wallace Ward to approve the September 22, 2014 Park Board Minutes and seconded by Scott Stream.

Motion approved. Rick Bagy abstained. Motion passed.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Implementation Committee met to review the 30% completed plans for the Greentree Park prairie project and the 90% completed plans for the Walker Lake Phase 4 plans. Murray presented slides of Concept B for Fillmore Park. Murray went over the restroom, playground, pavilion and the accessible walk way. The playground would be similar to Avery with the two age group playgrounds.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a) Pedestrian/Biking Plan Update

On October 25th the Trailnet staff members were on site at the Kirkwood Farmer's Market to answer questions about the draft pedestrian and bicycle master plan. Trailnet has worked with the Kirkwood Planning Advisory Committee to develop a Kirkwood Pedestrian and bicycle Master Plan. Those

reviewing the draft plan at the market generally approved of the plan. A final draft of the plan should be completed early next year.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a) Appropriation of Funds for Kirkwood Park Restroom Repair

Murray Pounds reported we have reached an agreement between the City, the insurance company and the contractor on the final price. The current cost is \$223,559.70 or \$6,523.00 higher than the amount reported at the last meeting. The Board needs to take three actions.

The first is to appropriate an additional \$6523.00 to revenue account 201-0000-392-2000. This amount represents the additional reimbursement we will receive from the insurance company.

Motion made by Kirk Hutchison to appropriate an additional \$6,523.00 to revenue account 201-0000-392-2000 and seconded by Scott Stream.

All approved. Motion passed.

The second action is to appropriate a corresponding amount of \$6,523.00 into expense account 201-5101-452-7503, Project PF1508. This allows the additional funds to be spent.

Motion made by Kirk Hutchison to appropriate \$6,523.00 into expense account 201-5101-452-7503, Project PF 1508, seconded by Wallace Ward.

All approved. Motion passed.

The third action is to increase the contract amount for the contractor, Servpro, from its current level of 217,036.70 to \$223,559.70.

Motion made by Kirk Hutchison to increase the contract amount for the contractor, Servpro, from its current level of \$217,036.70 to \$223,559.70, seconded by Wallace Ward.

All approved. Motion passed.

b) Accessible Swing Partnership Proposal

Murray reported he was approached by a representative of Unlimited Play, a group dedicated to improving accessibility to playgrounds by providing accessible swing seats and swing systems to local communities. Unlimited Play engages in fundraising activities and with the money raised donates the swings to local communities. A copy of the partnership application is included in the packet.

Murray said Unlimited Play has already secured funding for a swing that could be installed almost immediately should the Board give approval. Curt Carron and Pete Laufersweiler (Pete has experience with this style of swing at Forest Park) agree that having one of these swings at Kirkwood Park is certainly worth a try. The board could choose to accept this donation and then decide to wait to see how successful the swing is before considering additional donations for other parks such as Avery and Fillmore Parks.

Wallace Ward said he feels Kirkwood does not need the charity and has the ability to pay for one of these swings and why not give it to another park.

Motion made by Scott Stream to move forward with the donation of an accessible swing seat for Kirkwood Park from Unlimited Play and seconded by Kirk Hutchison.

Motion passed.

Wallace Ward opposed the motion.

Tom Riggs opposed the motion.

c) Maintenance Report

The Maintenance Report is included in the Park Board Packet. This is for the period September 22 through October 26, 2014.

Curt went over the Fireman's Park boundary line tree work. The Parks Department was contacted by a resident on Station Bend which backs up to the east side of Fireman's Park regarding tree issues. This particular address had concerns about an oak tree on the property line which was leaning fully into the resident's property and over their house. It was determined that a professional tree company would be called to complete the work. Ray's Tree Service was contracted to do the work. At the same time, the entire eastern property line was evaluated for similar issues. Additional trees requiring work were identified and will be trimmed or removed. As part of the trimming and removal process some screening vegetation was removed, but no complaints were received from other neighbors.

d) Other Matters

A copy of a letter sent to Murray Pounds and John Baker by Carol Gilster was handed out to the Park Board. John went over the contents of the letter with the Park Board.

Carol wrote she is very distressed by something she has noticed taking place both nationally and internationally in our park lands. Over the decades we have seen increased usage by horseback riders and now mountain bikers. Carol said she has seen increased evidence of the destructive presence of dogs and bikes in Emmenegger. Carol had some suggestions for our parks.

- Large, obvious signs stating No Dogs or Bikes inside the park.
- List the fine amount for breaking the rule.
- List phone numbers where rule breakers can be reported.
- Change Ordinance to reflect ban of dogs.

Murray said to change an ordinance the board would have to make a recommendation to the City Council. He will explore changing policies and ordinances. Dogs and other domestic animals are prohibited by ordinance from being in the Quarry Park. Murray will research the various fines for rule breakers.

Citizen Gwynn Wahlmann said she was at Emmenegger Park on Sunday and saw five off-leash dogs and a mountain bike. Gwynn was asked if she had a number to report the offenders would she have called.

Gwynn said yes, she would have called if a number was available.

John Baker asked if anyone would be interested in forming a committee to consider these concerns and make recommendations to the Board regarding the on-going protection of our natural park lands.

At this time there was no interest in forming a committee.

Murray said he had a proposal from Melinda Heaton, a teacher at the Kirkwood Early Childhood Center and she would like to do a service-learning project with her classroom called "Little Free Libraries". This would consist of building a mini library for the park and keep it stocked with books. Her class would not only be building these libraries but would also be in charge of keeping them stocked with books for adults and children through donations and fundraising at KECC. She would like to place one of these libraries at Mitchell Park where her classrooms often go on walking field trips

Wallace Ward made a motion to approve the proposal from Kirkwood Early Childhood to place a "Little Free Library" in Mitchell Park and Steve Coates seconded.

All approved. Motion passed.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Murray reported to the Park Board he had a request for an overnight stay at Fireman's Park.t. Murray said he sees no problem with this request.
- There will be a pre-bid meeting for Walker Lake Phase 4 on November 4 and the bids will be due by November 14, 2014. Murray said he should have some information at the next board meeting.
- The feasibility study process is moving forward.
- Murray reminded the board members of the Board and Commission training session on Wednesday, October 29.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Kirk Hutchison said he noticed a fishy smell by the lake. Pete Laufersweiler will investigate this complaint.

Murray said Kirkwood's Pickleball Court is the first permanent public court in the St. Louis area. Curt reported that a net has been ordered to go on the top of the handball court to keep balls from leaving the court area.

John Baker said Operation Clean Stream was a success and a lot of fun.

The next Park Board meeting will be on November 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Park Board Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.