



**KIRKWOOD PARK BOARD
MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2013
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER
111 S. GEYER ROAD, ROOM 202
MEETING MINUTES**

In attendance: Alan Hopefl, Tom Riggs, Steve Coates, Lisa Balbes, Carl Eklund, Rick Bagy, Kirk Hutchison, John Baker

Staff: Murray Pounds
Curt Carron

Excused: Carol Gilster

Park Board meeting convened at 7:00 p.m., chaired by Alan Hopefl.

1. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mary Phelps
521 W Adams

Mary Phelps inquired about the handball court. She wanted to know when the new handball court would be ready.

Murray Pounds reported construction on the new court would begin after the Greentree Festival.

Curt Carron introduced our newest part time ranger, Francisco Linan to the Park Board.

II. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 17, 2012 MEETING MINUTES

December 17, 2012 Park Board Minutes approved.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Finance Committee

A copy of the Kirkwood Park Fund Fiscal Year 2013-14 and the Park Fund-Capital Budget 2013-2018 was included in the Park Board packet.

Projections in the budget are based on actual revenues and expenses through the end of December 2012.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a) Fillmore Park Land Acquisition

The Fillmore Park Land Acquisition was supposed to close last week, but has been delayed until February 15, 2013. The delay was caused by the representatives of estate having to go through the court hearing approving the sale.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a) Emergency Communications Tower Proposal

The Emergency Communication Tower Proposal is a St. Louis County Emergency Communication Commission project. The communications tower will be 190' in height. Kirkwood Park has been identified by the Commission as a possible site. This may be because of the elevation and height of the Kirkwood Park area as well as its proximity to other proposed tower locations. Because of previous issues with the water tank that was located on the same site and the foundation failed, there will be some soil testing done to see if the site is capable of supporting the structure.

The county would lease the land from the City of Kirkwood and there would be a long term lease arrangement. The parameters of a potential lease with the City have not been discussed.

Murray said he does not know what the next step is. This project is already behind some of the dates the Federal government has mandated. Kirkwood may not have a choice in the matter.

Steve Coates wanted to know if the Kirkwood Parks Department would have any responsibilities regarding the tower. Murray said the Parks Department would not be responsible for the tower or any equipment.

Alan Hopefl questioned where the money is going to and where the money would eventually end up.

Since the tower is being considered in Kirkwood Park there should be a plan to address the public since they might think Kirkwood is responsible for putting up the tower and let them know all the details so the calls would not all be going to Murray Pounds or City Hall.

a) Municipal Park Grant Commission of St. Louis Planning Grant Application

Murray discussed the Municipal Park Grant program with board members. The Municipal Park Grant program is an ongoing program. This program provides grants to complete planning processes, improve, restore and expand local parks and recreation programs and facilities in municipalities in St. Louis County. The deadline for the grant application is February 15, 2013 and at this point Murray said we might wait until next year to apply for a grant, possibly involving a plan for Fillmore Park given the acquisition of new land for the park.

The board agreed to wait until next year to apply for a grant.

b) Consideration of Missouri Department of Conservation Agreement for Management Of Walker Lake

The agreement between the City of Kirkwood and the Missouri Department of Conservation was included in the packet.

The agreement listed the City Responsibilities, Department Responsibilities and the Joint Responsibilities and Acknowledgements. The agreement will expire twenty-five years from the effective date.

There were questions regarding the purchase of an aeration system by Kirkwood which would include the necessary equipment and reimbursement of that cost. Curt Carron explained to the board the aeration system we now have and what the system does. Curt said the agreement does not guarantee funding but a request would be submitted annually until it was funded.

The Board said they wanted more details on what the Department of Conservation was going to maintain.

Murray said the Department of Conservation is a valuable source of information and resources.

Motion made by Kirk Hutchison to table the Agreement between the City of Kirkwood and the Missouri Department of Conservation until the February Park Board meeting, seconded by Tom Riggs.

All agreed. Motion passed.

Murray said he would have John Hessel, the City of Kirkwood's attorney look at the agreement.

c) Consideration of John Deere Utility Vehicle Purchase

A memo from Curt Carron, Superintendent of Kirkwood Parks is included in the Park Board packet. The memo is the recommendation for the purchase of a utility vehicle. The John Deere XUV625i (Gator style) was selected. The memo had all the specifications for the John Deere XUV625i.

Motion made by Kirk Hutchison to approve the purchase of the John Deere XUV625i (Gator style) using the government purchase contract, (NJPA081209). Kent Critchell of Wm. Nobbe Equipment will be the Deere Inc. selected dealer of delivery. The total purchase price is \$11,328.46 and is charged to account 201-5101-452.75-05, Project PF1308. Lisa Balbes seconded the motion.

All approved. Motion passed.

d) Maintenance Report, Year End Ranger Report

Curt Carron included the Maintenance Report for January 2013. This is for period December 18 through January 25

Curt said the Fireworks display December 29th went well. There were an estimated 3500-4000 people that attended. Curt said the cleanup took about 2.5 hours for two people. The Special Business District will have another Fireworks display in December 2013. This fireworks display will be a Special Business District event. The Parks Department will continue to have the July 4th fireworks display.

A 2012 Park Ranger annual Summary was included in the Park Board packet. This was prepared for review by Ronald Hall, Senior Park Ranger. The Summary gave information on the responsibilities of the rangers, Mission, Organizational Structure, Training, Interpretative Programming and Enforcement Actions.

e) Other Matters

None

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Avery Park project is pretty well closed. There are a couple of warranty items that will be taken care of in the spring.

The December fireworks went very well. The crowd enjoyed the festivities. The City of Kirkwood does plan on having another December fireworks in 2013. This will be a SBD event.

The community center committee is looking into potential partnership with Meramec College, Glendale and Oakland. The committee meets on a monthly basis.

Murray said he has not heard from Eagle Scout candidate Austin Steimel regarding the Quinette Flagpole project or Eagle Scout candidate Grant Underhill regarding the Water Marker project in Emmenegger Nature Park.

The Quinette Flagpole project may not happen. The project is very complex with the lighting, costs, etc.

Murray reported he had another Eagle Scout meet with him regarding a natural trail at the Firemans' Park.

An initial maintenance plan for Kirkwood Downtown Special Business District was included in the Park Board packet. Murray Pounds, Curt Carron, Peter Laufweiler and Mike Brown worked on this plan. The plan includes all the areas that the Parks Department would be helping the City maintain. The plan has the cost estimate for the Kirkwood Downtown maintenance that includes staffing, plant materials, materials and tools/ equipment. The total cost came up to \$49,451.74.

Murray said we need to know soon if we are going to help maintain the downtown area because part time and seasonal staff would have to be hired as soon as possible.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Taxpayers in St. Louis City and St. Louis County will vote on Proposition P in April. If passed, the tax hike of 3/16 cent would raise an expected \$760 million over the course of 20 years.

Tax revenue of \$100 million would be directed toward the Arch, while the additional \$660 million would be spent on local and regional parks.

A part of the plan will be covering Memorial and I-70, creating a space from the Old Courthouse to the Arch and updating the Museum underneath the Arch. There would be private donations and some federal money to get the project started.

Murray said he didn't think St. Charles would vote on the proposal.

Mayor Art McDonnell said he could have someone come to the next Park Board meeting to discuss the proposed 3/16 cent tax increase since it is pretty complex.

The board members in attendance said they would like to have someone come to the next meeting to explain the tax increase and what it will do for the park system.

Carl Eklund just wanted to say thanks to Ron Hall, Senior Park Ranger for the 2012 Park Ranger Annual Summary he prepared and thanks to all the rangers for what they all do on a daily basis.

Murray said the rangers really do cover a lot of ground, patrolling and securing all of the parks and sites.

Murray said the MPRA Conference will be held at Tan Tara at the Lake of the Ozarks and will be February 26th through Friday, March 1. If any Park Board member is interested in attending let Murray know.

VIII. MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS REAL ESTATE MATTERS

Motion made by John Baker and seconded by Carl Eklund to adjourn to closed session at 8:07 p.m.

Roll call as follows:

Alan Hopefl-yea	Tom Riggs-yea	Steve Coates-yea
Lisa Balbes-yea	Carl Eklund-yea	Rick Bagy-yea
Kirk Hutchison-yea	John Baker-yea	

Motion passed 8-0.

Motion made by Kirk Hutchison to return to open meeting at 8:19 p.m. and seconded by Steve Coates

Roll call as follows:

Alan Hopefl-yea	Tom Riggs-yea	Steve Coates-yea
Lisa Balbes-yea	Carl Eklund-yea	Rick Bagy-yea
Kirk Hutchison-yea	John Baker-yea	

Motion passed 8-0.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.