



**KIRKWOOD PARK BOARD
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2013
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER
111 S. GEYER ROAD, ROOM 202
MEETING MINUTES**

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

Staff: Murray Pounds, Curt Carron

Excused: Carol Gilster, Tom Riggs

Park Board meeting convened at 7:05 p.m., chaired by Alan Hopefl.

Alan introduced Boy Scout Troop 685 that was attending the February Park Board meeting. Each Boy Scout introduced himself and told the Park Board members the schools they attend.

II. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Donald Oliver
919 W. Adams

Mr. Oliver had questions concerning an emergency communication tower that the St. Louis County Emergency Communications Commission is investigating placing in Kirkwood Park near the water tower. He said there were emails circulating regarding the tower and discussed concerns the people of Kirkwood have about a tower being put in Kirkwood Park.

Some of their concerns are how or when were there any public negotiations? How will this affect the City of Kirkwood? What will the income be for leasing the land? Will the City make money on the lease? Where would this emergency communication tower actually be located? How tall is the tower supposed to be? Isn't there an ordinance that says the City of Kirkwood cannot lease park land?

Mr. Oliver said this would have an impact on the housing prices on Couch Ave.

Mr. Oliver discussed recreation in the park and said recreation can be more than sports. Walking a dog in the park can be a form of recreation.

Murray Pounds said he did not have any additional information regarding the tower except that the Emergency Communications Tower Commission will be testing the soil to see if the site is capable of supporting the structure. Bad soil conditions could eliminate the site from consideration. No negotiations in terms of leases or other conditions have been discussed. Murray said the Emergency Communications

Commission has expressed a willingness to hold a public forum to discuss the tower and answer questions.

Alan Hopefl told Mr. Oliver the Park Board did not have any information regarding the emergency communications tower and he should contact the City Council.

Park Board meeting recessed at 7:10 p.m. to conduct a public hearing.

1. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PARK FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014

Murray Pounds stated that a notification announcing the public hearing for the Park Fund Budget For Fiscal Year 2013-2014 was placed in the St. Louis Countian on February 13, 2013 and in the Kirkwood Webster Times on February 15, 2013. The budget was reviewed by the Finance Committee before the 1st of the year.

Alan Hopefl asked if anyone in attendance had any questions or comments regarding the 2013-2014 Park Fund Budget.

There were no questions or comments.

Hearing recessed at 7:12 p.m.

Park Board meeting resumed at 7:13 p.m.

III. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 28, 2013 PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES, JANUARY 28, 2013 CLOSED SESSION MINUTES , OCTOBER 15, 2012 CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

January 28, 2013 Park Board Minutes approved.

The October 15, 2012 Park Board Closed Session Minutes were approved as requested by President Alan Hopefl.

Roll call as follows:

Alan Hopefl-yea	Steve Coates-yea	Lisa Balbes-yea	Carl Eklund-yea
Rick Bagy-yea	Kirk Hutchinson-yea.		

John Baker abstained.

Motion passed.

The January 28, 2013 Park Board Closed Session Minutes were approved as requested by President Alan Hopefl.

Roll call as follows:

Alan Hopefl-yea	Steve Coates-yea	Lisa Balbes-yea	Carl Eklund-yea
Rick Bagy-yea	Kirk Hutchinson-yea.	John Baker-yea	

Motion passed.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

V. OLD BUSINESS

a) Emergency Communication Tower Proposal Update

Murray said there were stakes put in the general location where the Emergency Communication Tower Commission has identified as a possible site for an emergency communication tower. The stakes mark the locations where boring will be completed to check soil conditions. There have been no serious discussions otherwise with the Emergency Communications Commission regarding the tower.

Murray Pounds indicated there is still a lack of information on this project. The commission does have to do some soil testing and if the soil is inappropriate the tower would have to go someplace other than Kirkwood Park.

Mayor Art McDonnell said he does not have a lot of information on this project. The soil sample will be important for all communities in St. Louis County.

At this point we do not really have any new information on a specific Emergency Communication Tower Commission Proposal.

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

The Agreement was tabled at the last meeting so a revised version addressing work on the fishing dock could be secured and answers to some questions from Board members could be researched. Murray went over the revised agreement which includes the following:

Under the Owner's Responsibility section purchase of composite lumber and other materials needed to replace worn wooden deck boards and upgrade accessibility to the existing fishing dock to meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards is included. Replace worn materials and upgrade accessibility to the existing fishing dock to meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards is also included.

In the section covering Department of Conservation's responsibilities: Provide a cash grant reimbursement for the purchase of an aeration system, purchase of composite lumber and associated hardware is needed to repair the existing fishing dock and construction work described above in Sections 1.G, 1.H and 1.I covering 75% of the total costs up to a maximum Department commitment of \$9,000.

The agreement has been vetted by legal counsel.

Carl Eklund had some questions regarding the aeration system. Curt said the existing aeration system would continue to operate until it fails. If a new system provided through the resources of the Missouri Department of Conservation were installed we would look to them for assistance should it fail in the future.

Carl asked how long would this agreement be between the Kirkwood Parks and the Missouri Department of Conservation. Murray said the agreement would be for 25 years.

Murray said the operational cost for the new aeration system is estimated at \$700 per year. Curt Carron reported the noise level from the proposed system is very low and would help improve the water quality in the lake.

Murray said it is valuable to have this relationship with the Missouri Department of Conservation to help maintain Walker Lake for fishing and other purposes.

Motion made by Lisa Balbes to approve the modified agreement between the City of Kirkwood and the Missouri Department of Conservation for management of Walker Lake. Motion seconded by Carl Eklund.

All approved. Motion passed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a) Downtown Kirkwood Planting Area Proposal

A copy of a budget prepared by Curt Carron and Peter Laufersweiler to manage the Downtown Planting Areas was included in the Park Board Package. The budget includes:

- Some of the salient points from discussions that have been held with Mike Brown, Mayor McDonnell and Donna Poe from SBD are:
- The proposed operational budget that is just under \$50,000 and includes provisions to hire one part time year round laborer and one seasonal worker to assist with the work in this area.

Motion made by John Baker to approve the Downtown Kirkwood Planting Area Proposal as in the report for a one year initial period to see what effect it has on the park staff the first year.

Motion seconded by Steve Coates.

Motion approved 6-1.

b) Approval of Authorization to Order Ranger Vehicle for Fiscal Year 2013-14

A recommendation for purchase of a Park Ranger vehicle was included in the Park Board packet. Curt went over the vehicle specifications with the Park Board members.

Motion made by Steve Coates to approve the purchase of the Explorer from Joe Machens Ford, MODOT Bid#3-121101RJ Light Duty vehicles, to include a 3.6L V6 4x4, Option 16A, and add-on #76R for the total price of \$25,679, contingent on the adoption of 13-14 FY budget. Motion seconded by Kirk Hutchison.

All Approved. Motion passed.

c) Maintenance Report

A copy of the Monthly Report for February 2013 for period January 29, 2013 through February 24, 2013 was included in the Park Board Packet.

d) Other Matters

None

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Walker Lake Phase 3 construction project has slowed down due to the weather. The project should be completed in six more weeks.

The community center committee is proposing to do some additional survey work regarding the community center.

Murray and other staff members will be leaving for the Missouri Parks and Recreation Association State Conference tomorrow,

There will be a discussion on the Proposition "P" campaign that is set for the April ballot at the March Park Board meeting.

The budget for Fiscal Year 2013-14 will be voted on at the March meeting.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.