



**KIRKWOOD PARK BOARD
MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2014
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER
111 S. GEYER ROAD, ROOM 202
MEETING MINUTES**

In attendance: John Baker, Tom Riggs, Steve Coates, Kate LeGrand, Kirk Hutchison, Rick Bagy, Scott Stream, Carol Gilster (arrived at 7:30 p.m.)

Staff: Murray Pounds, Curt Carron

Excused: Wallace Ward

Park Board meeting convened at 7: 05 p.m., chaired by John Baker.

I. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Gwyn Wahlmann, 1002 W. Adams

Gwyn Wahlmann thanked the Park Maintenance crew for the honeysuckle cutting at Emmenegger Park. Gwyn helped with the honeysuckle removal at Emmenegger and said it is fun and great exercise. It is important to control the honeysuckle. Controlling honeysuckle helps prevent ticks and disease. Gwyn said it might be beneficial to check and see if there are grants that could support this effort. It would be good to start up a volunteer committee for the honeysuckle removal at the parks.

II. APPROVAL OF JULY 21, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Motion made by Kirk Hutchison to approve the July 21, 2014 Park Board Minutes and seconded by Steve Coates.

Motion approved. Rick Bagy abstained. Motion passed.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Committee Reports

There will be an Implementation Meeting on Tuesday, September 16th at 8:00 a.m. at the Community Center.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a) Fillmore Park Planning Process Public Input Session

A successful planning session was held on August 12, 2014 at Nipher Middle School. Neighborhood representation was good. The neighbors gave their input.

Scott Stream said there was a difference of opinion discussing restrooms for the park. It was 50/50 for restroom or no restroom. Some concerns about putting in a restroom are security and the smell. Tom Riggs said putting in a restroom would set a precedent.

Discussion was held on signage along the streets adjoining the park. Murray Pounds said cautionary signs about children at play have been proven to be ineffective. Fencing around the parameter on the street side might be an option. Avery and Walker Parks have fencing.

Planning Design Studio will put together a list of what was liked and what was disliked by the neighbors in attendance.

A draft conceptual plan is tentatively scheduled to be presented September 30. The neighbors who were at the August 12th meeting will be sent an e-mail regarding the meeting on September 30, 2014. Murray Pounds said having the meeting at Fillmore would be nice, but because of weather concerns and a starting time of 6:00 p.m. an indoor location may be better. Murray will investigate holding the meeting at Nipher Middle School.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a) Handball Court Screen Discussion

Screening for the handball courts was discussed. The mishit balls are going out of play and across the street into neighbors' yards.

Horizontal and vertical screening methods were discussed. Vertical screening was originally rejected based on objections raised by neighbors when the courts were built. Horizontal screening may be problematic due to a tendency to trap debris. Curt Carron said the neighbors would not be able to see the vertical screening because of the trees. Scott Stream said we should give this a little more time to see what the players really want. Murray Pounds said handball players have told him they need the screening.

Motion was made by Scott Stream to table the Handball Screen issue for the rest of the calendar year and get more feedback. Kirk Hutchison seconded the motion.

There was a discussion of the motion.

Scott Stream made an amendment to the motion to table the motion until the next meeting and Steve Coats seconded the motion.

All approved, with Tom Riggs abstaining. Motion passed.

b) Municipal Park Grant Commission Grant Application

Murray Pounds said he believes no application should be submitted this year since the City still has an active grant with the program. This year's round will be very competitive as communities have delayed applications to this year to take advantage of the increased project limits for the program. Kirkwood has had grants for four mini parks, Fillmore, Little Mitchell, McEntee and Monfort. We could wait until next year for the Greentree Prairie Development or the Warming Room Flooring.

c) Memorial Bench Replacement Policy

Murray Pounds discussed one and possibly two memorial benches that were originally placed at the island at the lake over 15 years ago. When the lake was redone, and the island reconfigured the staff pulled all donor plaques from existing benches, which were then applied to the new benches that were placed around the lake. For some reason the bench or benches in question were not included in that group. The donor, who lives out of town, returned recently and questioned the whereabouts of the benches they had donated. The current policy, adopted last year, states the benches will be maintained for a period of 15 years. There was no such policy that Murray is aware of that was in existence at the time the donation was made. Murray would like the advice of the Board as to whether or not these benches should be replaced.

Carol Gilster made a motion to provide the benches and plaques to the donor who had benches and plaques that were placed on the island fifteen or sixteen years ago and inform her that now there is a 15 year policy. Tom Riggs seconded the motion. Carol Gilster made an amendment to the motion that the materials for the new benches match the other benches. Scott Stream seconded the motion.

Murray Pounds said there really isn't enough room on the island for two more benches. It was decided to talk to the person involved and see if maybe we could put two plaques on one bench.

Carol Gilster withdrew the motion and the Park Board will come back to this discussion after Murray Pounds talks to the donor.

d) Acquisition of Sculpture Pieces

The Park Board packet included a picture of three sculptures currently on display at the Marianist Gallery at Vianney High School. With the passing of local artist Brother Mel, the Marianist Galleries will be closing and is dispersing many of his sculptures. The sculptures have been offered to the City. The Kirkwood Arts Commission is investigating possible locations for the three sculptures and wanted to know if the Park Board would have any interest in having them placed in one of the parks. The Park Board members in attendance said they would have an interest in two of the sculptures.

e) Change of Date for October, 2014 Park Board Meeting

A motion was made by Rick Bagy to move the October 20, 2014 Park Board Meeting to October 27, 2014, seconded by Kirk Hutchison.

All approved. Motion passed.

John Baker reminded everyone the September meeting is moved to September 22, 2014 due to the Greentree Festival.

f) Maintenance Report

The Maintenance Report for July/August for period July 22 through August 17, 2014 is included in the Park Board packet.

The paving for Emmenegger Park should be completed by the August 22, 2014.

d) Other Matters

None

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Update on the rehabilitation of the Kirkwood Park Restroom:
The work will be started after the Greentree Festival. Since it cannot be completed by Greentree it was decided it would be better to wait until after the festival so the work doesn't interfere with the festival. The changing room and the women's restroom will be functional and there will be portable toilet units as well.
- Pedestrian and Biking Master Plan progress:
A Pedestrian and Bike "Early Action" project is planned for September 27 in the area of Scott and Woodbine. The neighbors are interested in how bike lanes can be marked, with parking on one side of the street. This should be an interesting project and the streets will be closed to local traffic from 10-1:00 p.m.
- Greentree Festival:
VIP Parking passes were issued to the Park Board. Everything is going well for the festival.
- Update on the community center study:
The feasibility study for the community center is moving forward.
- Update on progress on plans for Greentree Park Prairie area and Walker Lake Phase 4:
Walker Lake Phase 4-Bid will go out late October or early November. Construction should start in January and be completed by May.
- The permanent part time person that helps with the downtown business planting has left and the staff member assigned to the position is leaving in two weeks. Two part time park rangers have resigned as well.
- The summer camp programs are over and were very successful.
- The Missouri Department of Conservation Draft Emmenegger Nature Park Management Plan will be online and can be commented on until the end of August.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Kirk Hutchison reminded everyone about the Party in the Park on September 6, 2014 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The Greentree Festival Rotary Ramble will be held the morning of September 6th.

Carol Gilster reminded everyone of the Kirkwood Historical Society Antique Appraisal Fair to be held on October 18, 2014 from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the Kirkwood Community Center.

John Baker reminded everyone of Operation Clean Stream on Saturday August 23, 2014.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Park Board Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.