

ST. CHARLES PARK & RECREATION BOARD MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING HELD

May 1st, 2019

The meeting was **Called to Order** by President Smith at 6:00 pm in the American Legion Meeting Room at Memorial Hall. **Roll Call** noted the following present for the meeting:

Park Board - Leah Akers, Sandy Bichel, Patrick Caskey, David Fichtenmayer, Brad Harmon, Kathy Mudrovic, Mike Ryan, Tom Smith and Council Ohms were present. Bradley Nowak was absent.

Others - Maralee Britton – Director,
Chris Atkinson -Assistant Director,
Peter VanLinn - Maintenance Superintendant,
Don Borgmeyer - Enterprise Superintendant
Todd Kassabaum - Chief Park Ranger

3. Discussion of the St. Charles Soccer Complex

Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation Chris Atkinson updated the Board on the progress of the Soccer Park Task Team. They have had several meetings to discuss possible changes to the complex. The documents attached to the agenda look at several different discussion points.

First was the cost to convert all of the grass fields to artificial turf. Atkinson met with contractors who install turf to get "ball park estimates" on the cost. Conservatively the cost is approximately \$1,000,000 per field or \$16,000,000 for the entire complex. The Task Team thought that the only way to get the large tournaments to come to the facility would be to convert all 16 fields. Converting 2 or 4 or 6 would still not get the larger tournaments to come to the facility. Staff also estimated the annual maintenance costs if the fields were converted. This included the purchase of new equipment and the maintenance needed for the upkeep of the fields. The issues the task team found with converting the fields to artificial turf were:

- a) The upfront cost of the converting the fields is not possible due to the cost.
- b) If the development cost was financed and repaid along with the ongoing expenses to maintain the new fields the yearly cost would not be able to be covered by the estimated revenues that could be collected by having turf fields.
- c) Is the market saturated with all the other turf fields located within a 10 mile radius of St. Charles?

The second discussion point was how to better utilize the current facility with the grass fields. The Task Team discussed allowing practices on the facility. Per policy this is currently not allowed. The task team provided some revenue projections if practice were allowed. Task team also suggested allowing other sports to practice at the facility. Possibly lacrosse, cricket, rugby or other sports. Possible field rotations to protect the quality of the turf and scheduled were discussed.

The Board asked staff to come back with a policy on allowing practice at the facility for discussion at a future meeting.

4. Discussion of a Skate Board BMX Bicycle Facility

Director of Parks & Recreation Maralee Britton began the discussion. She updated the Board that there is currently \$373,960 in funds available in the project account. An additional \$372,000 is programmed to go into the project in the next 2 years of the CIP giving a total project amount of \$745,960 in 2021. This project was one of the projects tentatively listed as a possible Prop P project back in 2016. However the project was never clearly defined or developed. For example skate park, bike park, bike playground, pump track etc. Possible location within the City etc.

Thought is to develop an RFP that would be sent to consultants that develop and design these types of facilities. The consultant could then lead the process of identifying the needs and wants of the community and assess potential locations for the facility if it were to be built.

Bichel said that she may have a group that may be able to provide some input on the facility.

Britton suggested the Board to look at the Bentonville Bike Playground located in Bentonville, Arkansas. They recently opened that facility in 2016.

5. Adopt a Park (Board Member observations pertinent to facilities, programs and services within the Park System)

Akers - Said there was some graffiti on one of the bridges at the Eco Park.

Bichel - Good.

Fichtenmayer - Good.

Mudrovic - Good.

Harmon - Good

Ryan - Updated the Board that the curb cut at Fox Hill park was completed.

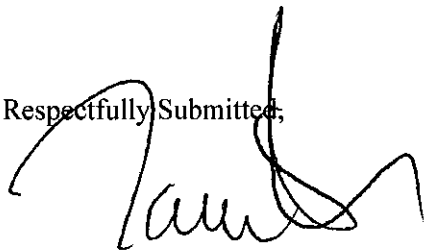
Smith - Good.

Caskey - Good.

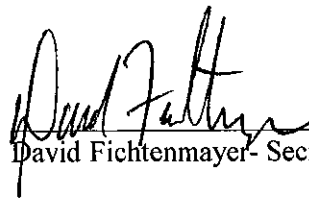
As there was not any other business to discuss Fichtenmayer moved for **Adjournment** at 7:18pm. Seconded by Caskey which passed.

Park Board Work Session Meeting May 1st, 2019

Respectfully Submitted;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Smith', written over a horizontal line.

Tom Smith- President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Fichtenmayer', written over a horizontal line.

David Fichtenmayer- Secretary