

Minutes

Cheney Park Board Commission Regular Virtual Meeting

December 9, 2020

Commissioners Attending: Chris Babcock, Chris Hoppe, Kelley Cullen, Tricia Hughes, Jamie Rieth

Commissioners Absent: Ryan Delaney

Staff Attending: Kelly McGinley Ashe, Alyssa Gonzalez.

Councilmembers Attending: None.

Call to Order: Commissioner Hughes called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Minutes: Minutes of the October 14, 2020 regular meeting were approved by Commissioner Babcock and seconded by Commissioner Cullen.

Information Items:

- A. Recreation Coordinator Interviews – Ms. McGinley Ashe stated that Dan Curley vacated the Recreation Coordinator position to take a job as the Office Operations Supervisor with Public Works. The first round of interviews have been completed for his replacement and the candidates have been narrowed down from 128 to four. The second round of interviews will hopefully happen before the end of the year. Ms. McGinley Ashe asked for two commissioners to participate in the second round of interviews. Commissioners Babcock and Cullen agreed to participate.
- B. GameTime Playground Grant – Ms. McGinley Ashe stated the grant application was submitted on October 29th and should be hearing soon if the department is chosen as a grant recipient. The grant is 100% matching funds to replace the play structure at Hagelin Park that was built in the late 1960s, early 1970s and has not been updated since.
- C. Spokane Parks Foundation Letter of Inquiry – Ms. McGinley Ashe stated that she submitted a letter of inquiry to the Spokane Parks Foundation asking for \$15,500 to replace existing pool covers that are in disrepair, \$10,000 to improve bathroom facilities at Hagelin Park, and \$10,000 for security systems to help prevent vandalism that happens almost weekly at Salnave and Centennial Parks, in addition to break-ins at the outdoor pool.
- D. Parks Survey – Ms. McGinley Ashe stated that City Administrator, Mark Schuller responded in an email this morning letting her know that he will forward to Parks Survey questions onto City Council and ask if they have concerns before it is distributed to the public. Commissioner Hughes asked how the survey is going to be distributed. Ms. McGinley Ashe stated that it will be distributed with monthly utility bills, in the newspaper, via email and through social media.
- E. Budget – The finalized 2021 budget was shared with the Park Board. Commissioner Hughes stated that Councilmember Paul Schmidt mentioned parks mitigation funding that the city receives from new construction that is to be used for parks development and it has a date that it needs to be spent by. Commissioner Hughes would like a report for the Board on how much money is in this fund, when dollars sunset, and how the Board is involved in the process to

identify projects through this fund. Ms. McGinley Ashe did not know that answers to the questions but stated she would find out and follow up with the Park Board.

Citizen Participation: None.

Action Items: Ms. McGinley Ashe would like to put together a proposal to charge field use fees to bring in funding to support the upkeep of the fields at Salnave Park, Moos Park, and Centennial Park. Ms. McGinley Ashe state that it is common practice to charge field use fees and she is gathering information and would like to create a sub-committee to assist. Commissioner Babcock questioned who uses the fields and Ms. McGinley Ashe stated Storm, Inland Empire Youth Soccer Alliance, and West Plains Little League are the biggest users outside of Recreation Department youth sports users. Commissioner Cullen asked how field use requests are handled. Ms. McGinley Ashe stated that they are submitted online and go through the Recreation Coordinator since that position does all the field scheduling. Commissioner Cullen stated that being an economist, she is in favor of charging field use fees. Commissioners Cullen and Babcock agreed to be on the sub-committee.

Tree Board Business: None.

Commissioner Reports: Commissioner Hoppe celebrated his birthday today.

Staff Reports: Ms. McGinley Ashe shared that City Administrator, Mark Schuller stated in an email that he is going to meet with the owner of the Salnave Glen Apartments after the first of the year to discuss ideas and willingness to assist in the development of a dog park. Commissioner Babcock is worried about Salnave Glen Apartments taking half of the space allotted for the dog park. Commissioner Hughes asked about the budget for the dog park. Commissioner Babcock stated that it will cost at least \$25,000 just for a fence. Commissioner Babcock also wanted to know how the Park Board can be a part of the decision-making process.

Commissioner Hughes asked what else is going on in the Parks Department. Ms. McGinley Ashe stated that ECHO is still being offered and next week a virtual Trivia Night is scheduled. Early next year, there will be a Snowshoe Dinner at 50 Acre Park, virtual Financial Classes offered by Waddell & Reed, and virtual cooking classes offered by Douglas LaBar, owner of the Mason Jar. Ms. McGinley Ashe also stated that she is currently planning for summer programs as usual. If social distancing regulations are still in effect, then she will adjust accordingly. Ms. Gonzalez stated that Camp CASLO is slotted to use Hagelin Park as home base due to its proximity to the pool, playground, greenspace, and ball fields, and that it allows children to social distance outside. Commissioner Babcock said to make sure that we spray for bees in March because the gutters in the pool are full of bee nests every year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved By:

Leslie Bridges, Administrative Clerk

Tricia Hughes, Chairwoman