

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
March 20, 2019
Minutes**

Members Present:

Loren Anthony
Tyson Nielsen
Brandi Lane
Russ McCaig
Brett Remsberg

Members Absent:

Betty Kirkpatrick

Visitors:

Commission Representative:

Kendra Wilkinson - Absent

Staff Present:

Kevin Wishart Don Argo Brian Urton Tabitha Sharp

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Russ McCaig moved to approve the minutes.

Tyson Nielsen seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

Personal Appearance – Judith Storandt, KN2E

- Judith Storandt provided a summary of a survey she did regarding the pool usage.
- Judith stated that she had a few suggestions regarding the pricing structure at the pool. She suggested making more than one courtesy pass available per household or allow families to have a second pass once they have used the first one.
- Russ asked what would prevent people from bringing kids from other families.
- Judith stated that they do that now.
- Kevin stated that the courtesy pass has 24 punches on it, and we do not check family members.
- Judith stated that the second card could be a reward for using the first one and being active.
- Judith stated that she would also like the board to consider offering more, free, swim days.
- Judith stated that they could do these things on a trial basis.
- Judith stated that she would also like to point out that shade is an issue at the pool, there are very limited opportunities at this time.
- Loren asked why the courtesy pass number is down.
- Judith stated that she didn't think people knew about it.
- Kevin stated that nothing about the policy has changed, so he was unable to answer why the number of passes has decreased.
- Judith stated that she would be happy to help advertise through the various KN2E avenues.
- Loren asked what she would like the board to do.
- Judith stated that if the board was interested, they could communicate that to staff so that they can institute them.

Activities Update

- Kevin stated that soccer is starting, enrollment is down slightly from last year.
- Kevin stated that registration for softball and baseball has happened.
- Loren asked how those numbers are compared to last year.
- Kevin stated that they are a little lighter, he stated that the largest group is actually Y15 softball which is against the trend.
- Kevin stated that the first baseball/softball games will be the week of April 28th.
- Kevin stated that basketball is done and only had one major incident.
- Tyson asked if the City enforces the same ejection rules as Heights.
- Kevin stated that we do, but this individual was not a local player and so was subject to league rules. She was suspended for another game.

New Business

- Russ asked if staff have discussed what was presented regarding the pool.
- Kevin stated that the City Commission has authorized the 24 free admissions per family. He stated that it was changed to that from an unlimited pass by a Commission six or eight years ago. He stated that the pool manager knows that a family has used the punches, he finds a way to help the family. He stated that staff do that on a case by case basis.
- Kevin stated that one of the reasons that he likes the limit is that some of the more troublesome kids don't come back once they use their pass.
- Kevin stated that when people come to talk about pool passes, we talk to them about the various passes offered, including the courtesy pass.
- Kevin stated that regardless of the number of kids in the pool, it costs the same to operate.
- Brandi asked if the reason for the decline could be because of the wording.
- Kevin stated that it could be. He stated that he thought it was just like the other activities being offered, our numbers are declining due to apathy or technology.
- Brett asked if they have to come to the school district and get the letter.
- Kevin stated that they only have to do it once, if they participate in an athletic program throughout the year, they don't have to bring another one in.
- Tyson stated that he felt this was lack of interest on the parents' part to get kids to the pool.
- Kevin stated that we also do not charge parents or guardians who just come to supervise.
- Brett asked if splash pad attendance had increased.
- Kevin said it had. He stated that last year the bus didn't come to the pool until 1:30 or 2 and kids had already eaten. He stated that USD 490 has also offered to transport kids from the school to the pool in the summer and they had minimal interest.
- Kevin stated that staff do their best to make sure that kids who need to be in the pool are in the pool. He stated that the night swims that don't allow punch cards are seeing an increase in attendance.
- Russ stated that he didn't have any problem with asking the Commission. He stated that he would like to see it happen and compare numbers.
- Tyson stated that he didn't think it would make a difference.
- Russ moved to direct staff to discuss the options with the City Manager.
- Tyson seconded.

- Motion carried 4 – 0.
- Russ stated that the softball fields look great.
- Tyson asked what was happening at Graham Park.
- Kevin stated that the park is getting a new basketball court, similar to Gordy Park's. He stated that the hole being dug today is for sewer line for the restroom.
- Tyson asked if bathrooms can be locked in the parks.
- Kevin stated that we have had lock options before, but they were vandalized. Technology has been updated and we are looking at new options. We have locked and unlocked restrooms daily in previous years.
- Tyson stated that he also has noticed an improvement in the softball fields.
- Tyson asked if the High School could have a sign on the fence like Butler does.
- Kevin stated that he has spoken to Mr. Vang at USD 490 and told them they were welcome to do something similar.
- Russ asked if businesses donated money, could we have a score board that advertises for those businesses.
- Kevin stated that if the Commission approved it, they could do that.
- Loren asked if there was need for more parking at East Park.
- Kevin stated that signs are being made to encourage people to use the parking lot at the Park Shop.
- Russ asked if the dugouts have roofs.
- Kevin stated that they just finished, metal roofs so there will be little maintenance.

Director's Report

- Kevin stated that he appreciated the positive comments on the softball fields. He stated that the weather this winter has not allowed us to do everything that we wanted, but we are still working on it.
- Kevin stated that the City and USD 490 have entered into an interlocal agreement authorizing eight courts with concessions at the northwest corner of North Main Park.
- Loren asked about the parking.
- Kevin stated that thirty spaces have been added and additional is available on the other end of the park.
- Kevin stated that the Gordy Park playground is being moved to the north due to ground water in the original area.