

**MINUTES OF THE BETTENDORF PARK BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday January 14th, 2020**

The Bettendorf Park Board held a Committee of the Whole on January 14th, 2020 at 4:00 pm.

Present: Chairperson – Larry Makoben
 Vice-Chairperson – Don Wells
 Commissioner – Tim Carroll
 Commissioner – Tom Dryg
 Commissioner – Steve Wilger

ELECTION OF PARK BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2020

On Motion by Commissioner Dryg, seconded by Commissioner Wilger to nominate Larry Makoben as Chairperson, and Don Wells as Vice-Chairperson of the Bettendorf Park Board for 2020.

Ayes: Carroll, Dryg, Wilger
Nays: none

ADDRESS THE BOARD

1. Jeremy Lang and his Lego league team presented plans to the board to make Crow Creek Park inclusive to all children, including kids with special needs. They noticed their friends with special needs watching other kids play on the equipment at their school. They looked at the 2018 census data and found that there are over 500 persons under the age of 18 with disabilities in Bettendorf. After some research they found that only one out of sixteen parks in Bettendorf is inclusive to all children. They chose Crow Creek Park because of its location to Bettendorf and Pleasant Valley schools, housing and business development. It also has a lot of space for additional equipment and play areas. They conferred with Gametime Equipment, a company the city has worked with previously for equipment at the Family Museum, and came up with a model for an inclusive play area. They predict the overall cost will be approximately \$150,000 depending on the final plan. They feel the funding can come from local organizations providing grants or donations. They presented examples where grants were awarded in other areas of the quad cities for inclusive play equipment.
2. Maxine and Marlene with the Bettendorf Senior's Card Group asked the board for any suggestions to get the word out about their card club. They are having trouble attracting new members. They have tried advertising in the newspapers and the internet and they have not had much luck. Their members are from age 55 years old to over 100 years old. They have gone from over 100 members in the past to about 29 members presently. Their dues are only one dollar a month. They play from noon until 3pm. They have snacks while they play and dessert and coffee is served at 3pm.
3. Becky with the Bettendorf Trails Committee gave a recap of what the committee did last year. They had six "Walk and Roll" events. The events were promoted through the 2019 brochure, email blasts, social media, including creating Facebook events. They also sent out press releases and had all three main stations included. As the trails coordinator Becky represents Bettendorf at the Bi-State Regional Trails Committee which meets bimonthly. She also attends the city wide social marketing meetings and posts on Facebook every Tuesday with a trail tip and #bettrails, #bettrailstips or #bettrailstuesday. Five "Walk and Roll" events are scheduled for 2020. Since Yoga in the Park has been such a huge hit, they have been scheduled the weekend prior to the "walk and roll" events in those same park/trail areas in hopes of spreading the word about the "Walk and Roll" events.
4. The BPV presented their 2019 Financial and Operational Report. Participation has increased from about 700 in 2018 to 800 in 2019 in the regular season. Fall has seen the biggest increase from about 125 participants to over 400. All star events have also increased. They have maintained equipment and made several improvements to the fields they lease. The following are several requests submitted by BPV, for the Park Board to consider for 2020. They would like to host tournaments for 2020 and beyond to help support their new branch of travel

baseball. New bases and base pegs at several diamonds would increase the flexibility in field use throughout their programs. They also ask for an investment in the 4-plex drainage system to help reduce rainouts. They ask that the city notify BPV by January 1st if an outside organization rents the 4-plex or any other field leased by the BPV that following year. Knowing about rentals that far in advance would help them align their published pre-season schedule. Long term, they would like to see lights at the 4-plex. Currently BPV secures a one year agreement with Bettendorf Parks and they would like to have an agreement that spans a few years at a time.

5. Isaac Jacobs, a Bettendorf Recreation Program Coordinator who oversees the Park Ambassador Program, introduced Jim Martens, the program coordinator and one of the park ambassadors, Jim. The park ambassador program runs from Memorial Day through Labor Day, Monday through Saturday, 6pm to 11pm. All park ambassadors are volunteers. To volunteer, applications can be picked up at Bettendorf City Hall, the Community center and the Life Fitness center. The park ambassadors patrol the city's parks and offer assistance to park patrons. Their duties include giving directions, providing information on park activities, checking for vandalism, and serving as extra eyes and ears for the Bettendorf Police Department. Last summer's man hours were 697 hours and 4,762 miles were put on the city van patrolling the parks. A police scanner is available in the van if help is needed.

STAFF OPERATIONAL UPDATES

All divisions/areas were reported on through official Board Reports given to the Park Board. Any comments or questions are listed below:

1. Parks Maintenance report – Jason Manful reported that they are still out maintaining the parks regardless of weather conditions. With the nicer temps it has been an active winter at the parks. With near sixty degree temperatures last week we had the trails blown off city wide for debris and leaves. Decker Ploehn asked if all of the parks will get new signs with the updated city logo. Jason said it is the older wooden alternate signage that will be replaced with updated new metal signs.
2. Golf Maintenance report – Liz Solis-Willis added that in a conversation she had with Brian Hickey, he said that he feels very confident with Landscapes Unlimited. He added that they are probably the best in the area and they will do a wonderful job for us.
3. Palmer Grill report - Tim Carroll commented that the numbers are great and Michelle has done a tremendous job. Tim said the food is great and he loves the idea of the special events. Larry Makoben added that the special events have helped the income drastically.
4. Recreation report – Larry Makoben inquired about the number of adults that participate in the men's basketball league. Liz believes that there are 18 to 20 teams in that league; but she will get that number for the board. Liz also mentioned that the men's basketball league has been an ongoing program for many years.
5. LFC/BCC report- Larry Makoben was happy with the 50 new memberships that were purchased during the membership sale. Liz clarified that those memberships are annual memberships and those new members have not been members on record for over a year.

INTERIM DIRECTOR'S OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Liz Solis-Willis added that there is an approval for a price increase for pool rentals for Splash Landing, effective next season, on the agenda along with an approval for Michelle Clark's, food and beverage coordinator for Palmer Grill, contract. Tim Carroll asked about the attendance at Frozen Landing. Liz said that the numbers from this season have already passed those attendance numbers from last season.

UPDATE ON THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES STUDY

Decker Ploehn gave a status update. He reported that we had the highest number of surveys completed regarding the recreation facilities study that Perkins and Will has ever seen in their work as consultants. Many community meetings have been held to determine the wants and needs of the facilities. The steering committee has also surveyed the citizens

of Bettendorf to determine if and possibly how much they are willing to support a tax increase to build new facilities. The most updated concept drawing takes those surveys, questionnaires and community meetings into consideration. Decker feels that the updated concept drawing is pretty close to the final concept product. Liz Solis-Willis explained that the recreation/community center/fitness center component will consist of gym space, community spaces, and spaces for us to host not only our own recreation programs; but to allow others to rent those areas. This would include three regular size basketball courts that you could turn in to one large area, a track on the second floor, and a fitness area for classes and some storage. It also includes administration offices, a gathering space and an elevator. Also in the plans is locker rooms and showers. In addition a board area for training, programming, interviewing and all the personnel issues that need covered. The next drawing Liz describes is the outdoor aquatic center. There is space for a climbing wall and they are still going to have separate areas for the smaller children. There will be more amenities for the pre teen, teenage age groups and a specific area for lap swim. They are also considering a lazy river. A lazy river would not be deep water, therefore there would be a savings on treating and heating that portion. Liz feels these drawings will be exciting for the public to look at and something fun to look forward to. Decker added that the overall square footage is about the same as what the current buildings provide; but it is a better design of that space. He also mentioned the indoor pool on the plans is an alternate or future expansion and it is not included in the current numbers. At one of the next board meetings the steering committee will ask the board to recommend that a referendum be held. September is the target date for that referendum. The Friends of Bettendorf Parks and other citizens will then go out and inform the community of all the work that has been done in the planning of the facilities and the desire to have these new facilities constructed at Middle Park. Currently the price is around \$37 million; but Decker feels that there could still be some condensing done. With this plan, the property tax increase would equal \$1.25 per thousand dollar value of a Bettendorf home. Steve Wilger added that the designs and amenities are going to be amazing. Steve also feels it is a perfect location and he likes the idea of not having to park across the street and cross busy Middle Road which is safety concern. Steve Wilger asked Decker if the indoor pool component could be planned and added without having to do another referendum. Decker stated it could be part of the capital plan in the future. Steve Wilger also mentioned that with three basketball courts, that would allow for nine or so pickleball courts. With pickleball being so popular that is a good thing. Decker mentioned that everything that happens at the fitness center, community center and splash landing will still happen; but it will be centrally located which is a plus. Decker mentioned that there is no definitive plan on what will happen to the Life Fitness Center or the Community Center if this plan comes to be; but the city council will likely look into to selling or leasing those properties. They have been approached by parties interested in those properties. Don Wells asked if indoor tennis is something that will be considered or will that be gone. Decker mentioned that a couple of tennis groups have inquired about buying or leasing the Life Fitness Center. He also mentioned the Life Fitness Center was a tennis club when the city purchased it, so it may end up going back to its original purpose.

Tim Carroll brought up the extra \$40,000 that was needed to open Splash Landing. He clarified that it looks good on the outside; but all the internal and underground things are what is costing a lot. Tim also brought up the fact that when the Community Center and Splash were built, the population of Bettendorf was far smaller and we have seen tremendous growth and will continue to see that in our community. The Park Board asked Decker to thank the steering committee for all their work.

NEW BUSINESS

On Motion by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Carroll to approve the 1 Year Contract with Michelle Clarke, as Food and Beverage Coordinator for the Palmer Grill

RESOLUTION #03-20

RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT FOR MICHELLE CLARKE TO SERVE AS THE PALMER GRILL FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANAGER

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF BETTENDORF, IOWA: To approve a one-year contract for Michelle Clarke to serve as the Palmer Grill Food and Beverage Manager effective January 30, 2020 through January 29, 2021 as per the attached contract. The salary includes a 2.95% cost of living increase along with bonus incentives.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 14th day of January, 2020.

Ayes: Carroll, Dryg, Makoben, Wells, Wilger

Nays: none

On Motion by Commissioner Wilger, seconded by Commissioner Dryg to approve the fee increase for Splash Landing pool rentals

*RESOLUTION #04-20
RESOLUTION APPROVING FEE INCREASE TO SPLASH LANDING POOL RENTALS*

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF BETTENDORF, IOWA: To approve staff recommended fee changes, highlighted in yellow, to the following pool rental options at Splash Landing effective January 14, 2020:

<u><i>Old Rental Type/Fee</i></u>		<u><i>New Rental Type/Fee</i></u>	
Main Pool 30 ppl Fri/Sat PM	\$210.00	Main Pool 50 ppl Fri/Sat PM	\$275.00
Main Pool 30 ppl Sun AM	\$130.00	Main Pool 50 ppl Sun AM	\$150.00
Main Pool 75 ppl Fri/Sat PM	\$375.00	Main Pool 100 ppl Fri/Sat PM	\$400.00
Main Pool 75 ppl Sun AM	\$235.00	Main Pool 100 ppl Sun AM	\$250.00
Main Pool 200 ppl Fri/Sat PM	\$500.00	Main Pool 200 ppl Fri/Sat PM	\$525.00
Main Pool 800 ppl Fri/Sat PM	\$800.00	Eliminate this option	

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 14th day of January, 2020.

Ayes: Carroll, Dryg, Makoben, Wells, Wilger

Nays: none

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Chairperson – Larry Makoben to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 pm.

CHAIRPERSON: _____ ATTEST: _____

You can find a video of this meeting by visiting this website link:

<http://www.bettendorf.org/departments/division.php?structureid=208>

**MINUTES OF THE BETTENDORF PARK BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, January 14th 2020**

The Bettendorf Park Board held a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 14th, 5:19pm.

Present: Chairperson – Larry Makoben
 Vice-Chairperson – Don Wells
 Commissioner – Tim Carroll
 Commissioner – Tom Dryg
 Commissioner – Steve Wilger

Absent: None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

On Motion by Commissioner Wilger, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Wells to approve the Consent Agenda.

Ayes: Carroll, Dryg, Makoben, Wells, Wilger

Nays: None

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

1. Commissioner Carroll – Palmer Grill has moved to their winter hours. Hours are now Monday through Friday 10AM to 3PM, Saturday 8AM to 4PM, and Sunday hours will vary depending on cross country skiing. While Frozen Landing is open Palmer Grill has great deals on kids' meals. They are only \$2.50 per meal. Keep Palmer Grill in mind for Valentine's Day. There will be a variety of dinner specials on Valentine's Day. Check out their Facebook page and social media for the specials offered.
2. Commissioner Dryg – Register now for various youth and adult programs, including cooking, babysitting, cheerleading, tennis, fitness, kayaking, balloon twisting, swimming, volleyball, pickleball and more. Register at www.bettendorf.org/register
3. Commissioner Wilger – We may not be able to hit golf balls on the golf course but we can cross country ski at Palmer Hills if there is at least four inches of snow on the ground and the trails are groomed. If there is enough snow, the hours for skiing are Monday through Friday 9AM to 4PM, Saturday 10AM to 4PM, and Sunday 11AM to 4PM. Frozen Landing is up and running. The attendance has been tremendous. It is fun for all ages and abilities. Admission is \$1.00 and skate rentals are available for \$2.00.
4. Vice-Chairperson Wells – The Annual Winter Carnival is on February 1st, 2020. It is 10AM to 2PM. The Family Museum, the Bettendorf Library and the Life Fitness centers will all be participating with a variety of activities that are free. Frozen Landing is scheduled to be open that day. The city will be providing free bus shuttles between those four locations.
5. Chairperson Makoben - There is a youth pickleball challenge. A tournament for ages 10 to 16 will be held at the Life Fitness Center on Saturday March 7th from 1:30 to 4:00 pm. Registrants must have a basic understanding of the game of pickleball. Teams and brackets will be formed and based on both age and skill level. The program will entirely be run by volunteers from the Quad City Pickleball Club. Registrants will receive T-shirts and medals. Registration will be open in February, so watch your email.

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Chairperson Makoben to adjourn the meeting at 5:23 pm.

CHAIRPERSON: _____ ATTEST: _____

You can find a video of this meeting by visiting this website

link:<http://www.bettendorf.org/departments/division.php?structureid=208>