

**ELLISVILLE PARKS & RECREATION
PARK BOARD MEETING
Monday, January 23, 2023**

Chairperson Zuzack called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM

Park Board Members Present:

PBM G. Sackett, Chairperson G. Zuzack, PBM C. Slota. PBM C. Murner

City Residents Present: NONE

Park Board Members Absent: PBM J. Merkle, PBM J. Powell, PBM J. Mueller, PBM P. Gay

CHANGES TO AGENDA: NONE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Chairperson G. Zuzack asked for a vote to approve the Agenda. PBM G. Sackett 1st – PBM E. Laboube 2nd – All “AYE” by voice

CHANGES TO MINUTES: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairperson G. Zuzack called for approval of the Monday, October 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes. PBM G. Sackett 1st – PBM C. Slota 2nd - All “AYE” by voice.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

A. 2023 Activity Guide

Parks and Recreation Director L. Blumer distributed a copy of the 2023 activity guide to the park board to review. Blumer explained that the guides were mailed to all residents this past week. Registration for all programs and special events opened on Tuesday, January 3rd for Ellisville residents and will open on Tuesday, February 21st for non-residents. This gives Ellisville residents a greater chance of successfully registering for the programs and events they are interested in. Blumer discussed the tragedy of an area St. Louis county day camp child that drowned this past summer. This tragedy has been a wakeup call to all area parks and recreation department, and additional precautions will be taken in the future. Park Board Member E. Laboube asked if our day camp counselors are CPR certified. Blumer explained that all counselors are CPR, AED, and first aid certified through the American Red Cross each year before camp begins. Blumer spoke highly of the lifeguard staff that manages the EDGE

B. Recreation Programs and Events

Blumer moved on to discuss new programs that have been added in 2023. Pickleball has seen a drastic rise in popularity over the past few years, therefore we will be offering a beginner pickleball courses this spring and summer. Blumer also explained the interest we received in the scavenger hunt programs that were offered in 2020 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. There have been new programs to resemble these ideas such as a fall and Christmas front porch decorating contest, and a spring scavenger hunt with decorated wooden butterflies created by individuals who register for one. Blumer explained that this will be a great way to get more people parks they may have never visited before.

C. Amphitheater Project Status

Blumer updated the park board on the Amphitheater project status. Construction continues this winter with the goal of being completed before June 1st and the summer concert series begins. The seating has been constructed and now they are currently waiting for the caps for the seating blocks to come in. Blumer explained that Mike Hartwig, City Engineer is overseeing most of this project.

OLD BUSINESS:

A Bobwhite Park Renovation

Park Director Blumer informed the Park Board that the City did receive the grant for Bobwhite park and the first meeting with Planning Design studios is coming up next week. The current plan will be to work on the bid documents this spring, begin the project this summer and complete the project by the end of this year. Blumer explained that this project will be opened up to many playground companies to submit designs. Park Board Member G. Zuzack asked if the pickleball court will be lighted. Blumer explained that lighting for the court is not in the plan. This neighborhood park is very close to the surrounding houses and adding a lighted court may cause a nuisance to residents. The biggest desire residents have is a fence for the multipurpose court to keep the balls from going into the creek. This is in the plan.

NEW BUSNIESS:

A. Mockingbird Park Planning Grant

Blumer explained that the next park on the list for renovation is Mockingbird Park. This park is located in Cherry Hills subdivision. Blumer referred to the drawing of the park improvements in the master plan (see attached). The playground area will be the main focus of this project. The surfacing under is on bad shape, but the playground itself is not as old. The plan for this year is to apply for a grant, but we have 0 points due to just receiving a grant, so the chances of receiving the grant this year are low. Blumer explained that she believes it will be 3-4 years before this project goes. Blumer explained that this project will likely be a 2 phase project to include everything that is proposed in the master plan.

B. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

It was voted on to postpone the election of chair and vice chair until the next meeting on April 24.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson G. Zuzack asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. PBM C. Slota moved to adjourn and the motion was seconded by G. Sackett. All "AYE" by voice. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting will be Monday, April 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Fadler, Recreation Specialist
Date: January 23, 2023