

**ELLISVILLE PARKS & RECREATION
PARK BOARD MEETING
Monday, April 25, 2022**

Chairperson Zuzack called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

Park Board Members Present:

PBM P. Gay, PBM C. Murner, PBM J. Powell, PBM C. Slota, PBM G. Zuzack, PBM E. Laboube

City Residents Present:

Council Member Dan Duffy

Park Board Members Absent:

PBM J. Merkle, PBM G. Sackett

CHANGES TO AGENDA: NONE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

CHANGES TO MINUTES: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

A. Bluebird Park Amphitheater– Scott Emmelkamp – Planning Design Studio

Park Director Blumer introduced Scott Emmelkamp from Planning Design Studio who is here to give an update of the Amphitheater renovations and the Bobwhite Master Plan. Scott Emmelkamp informed the Park Board that this plan is still a work in progress, as they are still refining the site plan. See the attached PowerPoint to review the full details of the current status of this project. A few of the alterations as seen in the PowerPoint, include; increased accessibility, additional accessible parking at the top plaza, and an accessible drop off spot at the bottom of the hill, upper plaza area, block seat walls on the hillside, eliminating the current steep pathway on the hillside, as well as the sound booth area. Scott Emmelkamp also informed the park board that they are currently looking at options for a shade structure at the top plaza due to the desire for more shade on the stage. Park Director Blumer added, that in addition to shade, this structure would also give the amphitheater and park more of a presence.

B. Bobwhite Park Master Plan – Scott Emmelkamp – Planning Design Studio

Park Director Blumer informed the Park Board that the department will use this plan to apply for a grant in August. If the grant is received, then Planning Design Studio will move forward with the plan. Scott Emmelklamp let the park board know that they had an online survey open for a month to gather suggestions and ideas for this plan. The survey included 3 different plans with slight variations - see the attached powerpoint for these plans. Emmelkamp stated that there were strong negative reactions to the plan that included adding parking. There was also a planning meeting held in the park that was open to the public to come and voice their opinions. Park Director Blumer stated that the meeting went well and there were people in attendance that have seen past park improvements and spoke positively of the proposed improvements and also helped others visualize the plans.

C. Sculpture on the Move

Park Director Blumer informed the Park Board about Ellisville's status on the Sculpture on the Move Program. There will be a new sculpture in front of the Park Administration Building soon. It will be a large vibrant blue butterfly, which was chosen to give color and interest to the park. Every two years the sculptures get swapped out. Blumer gave the park board a summary of the sculpture on the move program and how the lottery system works. City names get entered into a hat and sculptures will get chosen by who gets drawn. There are currently 2 sculptures in the Park that are a part of the sculpture on the move program and are on different schedules so between the two of them, we will get a new sculpture every year since they stay for 2 years.

D. Spring and Summer Recreation Programs and Events

Park Director Blumer gave a brief summary of the programs and special events the Ellisville Parks and Recreation Department offers to inform the new park board members. All programs are doing very well and most are either full or almost full. Some of the upcoming special events include the Arbor Day Ceremony, Family Movie Night in the Park, Summer Concert Series, and the 4th of July Celebration. The 4th of July Celebration will be similar to last years with no shuttle busses, but parking passes instead. This went very smooth last year and we received a lot of positive feedback from the public. Parking passes will be available to Ellisville residents first on a first come first serve basis.

E. Disc Golf Course Improvements

Park Director Blumer informed the Park Board that the 9 hole Disc Golf course has been in Bluebird Park for 25-30 years and it is the original construction. The hillside by Klamberg on the first 3 holes is starting to become steep and unsafe. These holes for the course are going to be moved to a new location. An individual who has played this course for years has brought this to our attention. The holes are going to be moved this summer but the concrete tee pads for the new locations may not be completed right away.

OLD BUSINESS:

A Spring Park Tours – Saturday, April 30 – 9:00 AM

Park Director Blumer discussed a spring park tour. Most of the new members of the Park board will attend this tour and visit all of the parks with playgrounds. Park Director Blumer suggested that the park board should pick another date to visit all of the trails as well.

NEW BUSNISS:

A. International Dark Sky Places – Council Member Dan Duffy

Council Member Dan Duffy who is a member of the IDA gave a summary to the Park Board of what the International Dark Sky Association is. The objective of this organization is working toward lighting that will protect the sky, this type of lighting keeps the sky dark but not the ground. Duffy informed the Park Board that they are in the beginning stages of certifying Klamberg Woods as an Urban Night Sky. This will include gathering letters of support from the community, taking measurements and photographs, putting up signage, hosting nighttime events, and more. Council Member D. Duffy informed the Park Board that they hope to get volunteers to help with this project and asked the park board if they had any interest.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson G. Zuzack asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. _PBM E. Laboube moved to adjourn and the motion was seconded by PBM C. Slota All "AYE" by voice. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting will be Monday, July 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Mollet, Recreation Specialist
Date: April 25, 2022