

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
September 15, 2021
Minutes

Members Present:

Loren Anthony
Camielle Austin
Brett Remsberg
Tyson Nielsen
Russ McCaig

Members Absent:

Visitors:

Commission Representative:

Staff Present:

Kevin Wishart

Graham Park Playground Equipment

- Kevin reported that the current South Playground at Graham Park was installed approx. 12yrs ago and is in pretty good shape and the North Playground was installed approx. 20yrs ago and is in disrepair.
- Kevin stated bids were sent out and received back for the new playground that will be purchased with sales tax dollars.
- Russ stated he could not remember what the current South Playground looked like.
- Kevin explained the current South Playground. He stated it currently is for older kids, 5-12yr olds, and the bids for the new North Playground will be for a unit geared more towards a younger age group that will be located near the Splash Pad.
- Tyson asked what the dollar amount was that the City was looking to stay within.
- Kevin stated the maximum budget is \$50,000.
- Kevin stated the City plans on doing the installation.
- Russ held up one of the bids and stated it looked like a lot of equipment and asked if it was for the younger age group and Kevin answered that all the bids went out with the understanding it was for a younger age group.
- Tyson asked if the price of mulch is to be included in the \$50,000 budget or if that was only for the playground equipment.
- Kevin stated that the Graham Park Playground Project was \$50,000 and it could be spent all on equipment or they could try to have everything included in that (mulch, etc...). He stated it was our choice which direction we would like to go. We will save the cost of installation as the work will be done by our staff. He explained that if we choose to do equipment at \$50,000 we do have budgeted dollars for the mulch.
- Kevin reported for reference that we do not currently own playground equipment from Playscapes. They have bid before but usually have been higher. The new playground equipment going in at Riverview Park is from ABCreativ and North Main Park is from Athco.
- Loren asked how the playground equipment was at North Main Park and Kevin stated it has done very well.
- Tyson asked if Athco is what the City has used before.

- Kevin answered that with Athco we have 2. One at Martin Park and one at North Main Park.
- Kevin stated most of our equipment in the system currently is from Miracle. He stated they did not bid on this project.
- Kevin stated the other two newer playground equipment at Gordy Park and Library Park are from Cunningham Recreation and they did not bid on this project.
- Kevin stated the bulk of that option should fit within the current space but the concern is that the smaller separate equipment pieces and swings would not fit and would require a different pad.
- Kevin stated that when the bids were sent they included the dimensions of the current pad and asked that they try to stay within those limits.
- Tyson said at Graham Park the swings are alone in the park currently.
- Kevin stated that was correct, there are some swings in the center of the park near the basketball pad and some on the South side at the SE end of the park.
- Kevin stated he can make a recommendation to the City Manager to put three options out to the public, ABCreative, Athco 2, and Playscapes option 2.
- There were no objections to send three options to the public for their feedback.

Fall Activity Report

- Kevin reported that fall activities began practicing with games beginning soon.
- Kevin reported there are 82 players for flag football which is up from 56 last year during COVID but was down from 2019 when there was 112.
- Kevin reported there are 137 soccer players which is up from the 88 last fall during COVID but down from the 205 we had in 2019. He stated some of that could be attributed to the YMCA also offering a program and some of that could be attributed to some still not ready to be out in public from COVID.
- Kevin reported there are 138 volleyball players which is up from 86 last year during COVID and up from 119 we had in 2019.
- Loren asked if that was all El Dorado teams in volleyball or if Circle was included.
- Kevin stated that was Circle, El Dorado, Remington, and Flinthills teams combined.
- Kevin stated soccer was a little lighter with registrations than he had hoped. He does not know what the YMCA numbers were.
- Tyson stated he had a source that stated Augusta could not fill a couple of soccer age groups due to not enough participants.
- Kevin stated we had enough coaches volunteer for Volleyball. We did not have enough for soccer teams and several City staff stepped in to coach. Rec staff had to help coach some flag football teams as well.
- Kevin stated soccer officials were hard to come by this fall. We had several new ones.
- Kevin stated flag football officials were mainly Flinthills high schoolers. El Doraod High School football players had obligations on Saturday mornings which didn't allow them to officiate.
- Kevin stated registrations are out for women's volleyball.

New Business

- Russ stated he thought our Pickle Ball tournament had a great turnout. He knows several people that didn't know about it and feels next year will have more participants.
- Russ asked if we can try a different approach with the t-shirts next year to try to be more accurate with what is needed.

- Kevin stated it's difficult to know the count if we want shirts same day and due to late registrations.
- Russ asked if the BMX track is still in discussion.
- Kevin stated a couple of people approached him and that he reached out to them and never heard back from them.
- Tyson stated he spoke with Don or Brian regarding Activity Center parking. High school kids are now required to park North of the bus lane intersection leaving the whole South end of the Activity Center parking lot open for customers only.
- Tyson asked if there was a way to get a message out regarding the handicap parking spots.
- Kevin said he would get a message out to people regarding parking.

Director's Report

- Kevin reported Riverview park playground equipment had been started but he had to pull staff off to focus on some other items but they are back working on it again. He anticipates that equipment to be done in early October.
- Kevin reported they have worked a lot on lake soccer fields in preparation to play on, including irrigation replacement. They haven't been used in a few years so they needed extra attention.
- Kevin stated that mowing is falling behind. That is a result of staffing issues.
- Kevin reported there is a shirt shortage. The Vendor we use is struggling getting our fall sport shirts order in but do anticipate getting them in time for the season.
- Kevin reported the 150th celebration event went well and was proud of our staff.
- Russ suggested we should ask for donations/sponsors for prizes/awards that we give at events, like the Pickle Ball tournament.
- Tyson asked if we had filled the 2 positions that was requested to be filled in the department.
- Kevin explained the budget for it has to be approved by the commission before it can take effect, which would be January 1st. It still has to go through approval.
- Tyson asked if the electrical poles are always turned on or if they are only turned on for special events near the shelter at East Park.
- Kevin stated that none of those poles have a meter so they are not hot. They were leftover from Prairie Port days. He stated the electrical outlets in the shelter are in working order though.
- Kevin stated our order for larger heavy duty soccer goals has been delayed in shipping multiple times now. Because of that we had to buy light duty goals for this season.

Adjourn

- Brett moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45pm
- Russ seconded.
- Motion carried 5-0.