**MARION PARK BOARD MINUTES**

May 11, 2016, 4:00 P.M.

Thomas Park Administration and Operations Facility

ROLL CALL: Chair Kyle Martin, John McIntosh, Terry Speral

LATE ARRIVAL: Charlie Kress 4:30 p.m.

ABSENT: Patty Wise

STAFF: Mike Carolan, Karlene Hummel, Aaron VanMilligan, Darcie Coberly

GUESTS: Marion High School Government Class Students

Minutes

Moved by McIntosh and seconded by Speral to approve the April 13, 2016, regular Park Board minutes. No discussion. All in favor, motion carried.

Reports

Moved by Speral and seconded by McIntosh to approve the April Financial Report. Staff noted expenditures are trending in a normal pattern. Compared to prior year, revenues are up for Farmers Market and Recreation Programs, but lower for the Arts & Environmental rentals. There is an increase in vendors at the market; Speral attended opening day and shared that it was really busy. All in favor, motion carried.

The April Purchase Order Report was reviewed and accepted. It was noted the scheduled replacement of an AED unit for the Arts & Environment building was purchased from Zoll Medical in the amount of $1,365.49. Martin asked if AEDs are located at all of the main facilities. Carolan reported that a unit is also located in the Safe Room. Hummel stated that due to the close proximity of the Fire Department, a unit was not recommended to be placed at the Pool.

Public Input

Martin welcomed the eight Marion High School Government class students to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

Hanna Park Dump Site

Carolan provided the Board with the history of the dump site located in the NE corner of the Hanna Park property. The original plan was to construct tennis courts and a ball diamond in the area, but the ground needed to be cleared and regraded. Meanwhile the Public Services Department asked to use the site as a temporary holding area for construction debris. The Public Services Department has indicated they will be discontinuing this use and are removing the debris. The Department has been approached with the idea of allowing Alliant Energy to use the space as a storage area for equipment and materials. Carolan would like to sunset all industrial type of activity and eliminate the heavy equipment traffic through the residential area on Krumboltz Drive. Martin would like to see use of the dump site stopped. McIntosh asked about the future plans of the area. Carolan said the ground can be top dressed to become a natural area and even a designated pollinator area. The approximate 10 acres would count towards the 1,000 Acres Pollinator Initiative from the Monarch Research Program. Martin asked if the area was in a flood plain; staff did not believe so, but would find out. The Board members asked that the area be returned to a natural area.

Proposed Facility Naming Policy

Staff presented the Facility Naming Policy that is being considered for adoption by the City Council. Carolan indicated that major park facilities and land will be named by the City Council and smaller items, such as park benches and pavilions, will continue to be named by the Park Board. The City had no formal policy in place previously and this will set guidelines for the process.

Pavilion Fee Refund Request

Summit Schools submitted a request for a pavilion refund in the amount of $120. On December 14, 2015, the school scheduled a Learning Extensions Camp for Monday, May 16 and reserved Begley #1 and Begley #2 pavilions from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Summit School was not able to promote their event and therefore decided to cancel. Moved by McIntosh and seconded by Speral to grant the refund request to Summit Schools in the amount of $120. All in favor, motion carried.

Receive and File

A thank you from Indian Creek PTO was received and filed.

Staff Report

The monthly staff report was received and filed.

The Lowe Park Development project received three bids: Trey Electric at $79,173; Price Electric at $97,480; and K&W at $89,750. The engineer’s estimate was $153,000 for the project which will include lighting for the parking lot and bollard lights.

Surface material was installed at the Gill Park Splash Pad and looks great. After the material is cured, the system will be primed and readied for the season.

The Faulkes Heritage Woods Workday held on April 18 had over a dozen volunteers. The benefits of these scheduled volunteer workdays are starting to be seen with the re-establishment of wild flowers.

The new recreation program, Lil’ Chippers Golf, was filled and a second class time established in response to the number of children on the wait list. A total of 21 youngsters have signed up.

There are 36 teams in the PeeWee Baseball/Softball/Blastball program. The coaches’ meeting is this week.

The Swim Lesson mass sign up day filled 565 lesson spots. Pool start-up procedures are beginning and filling will start at the end of the week.

Community Movie Nights will be June 17 and August 12, showing “Star Wars: The Force Awakens” and “The Good Dinosaur” respectively.

Kress arrived at 4:30.

Other

Carolan presented information regarding the Freedom Rock Tour which began 15 years ago. Each year an Iowa county is selected to have a rock painted to honor America and a local military hero. To date, Linn County has not applied to be a part of the Freedom Rock Tour. Carolan considered suitable locations in Marion and is recommending Boyson Park. Applications have been submitted for years up to 2020. Participation would cost $5,000. Board members are in support of moving forward with submitting the application to participate in the Freedom Rock Tour.

Board Discussion Time

None.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday,   
June 8, 2016, at 4 p.m. at the Thomas Park Administration and Operations Building.

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Terry Speral, Secretary