

Norman Board of Parks Commissioners  
May 4, 2023

Item 1.

The Norman Board of Parks Commissioners of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met on the 4th day of May 2023 at 5:30 p.m., and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at 201 West Gray Street - 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Wright and Commissioners Davison, Isacksen, Moxley, Ross, Sallec, Salmond and Sheriff

Absent: Commissioners May

City Officials

Present: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation  
James Briggs, Park Development Manager  
Mitchell Richardson, Recreation Supervisor  
Wade Thompson, Facility and Park Manager  
Veronica Tracy, Recreation Manager  
Karla Sitton, Administrative Technician IV

ITEM 1, being:

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 2, 2023, PARK BOARD MINUTES

Commissioner Davison made the motion, and Commissioner Isacksen seconded to approve the March 2, 2023, Park Board minutes. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chair Wright and Commissioners Davison, Isacksen, Moxley, Ross, Sallec, Salmond and Sheriff

NAY: None

ITEM 2, being:

NORMAN FORWARD UPDATE

Mr. Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation, gave an update on the Norman Forward Projects.

**Reaves Park**

Mr. Olsen said a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on March 25, 2023. He said Flintco has a couple of items to wrap up on the project, and Staff is also completing some fence work outside the project scope. This \$10.2 million Norman Forward project includes constructing four new fields, restrooms, and concessions for 5-8U teams, a new park loop road and parking lots, a pond, and upgrades to 11 other baseball and softball fields. The project was designed by Halff Associates, INC. Project Management was provided by Flintco, LLC.

**Griffin Park**

Mr. Olsen said Phase 6 work continues at Griffin Park, including a road off of High Meadows Avenue to the two new parking lots being constructed, two restroom/concession buildings, and earth/grade work, to include sprigging, on eight new fields. A ribbon cutting is tentatively scheduled for September 16, 2023.

**Multi-Sport/Indoor Aquatic Facility - YFAC**

Mr. Olsen said work continues at the Young Family Athletic Center (YFAC) and highlighted the milestone dates to include the completion of building interiors by October 2023 and site finishes (paving, sidewalks, and east side run-out turf) completed by August 2023. Boring work began for the new street (Trae Young Drive) and is estimated to be completed in July. The art piece/sculpture is being designed and will be installed by September 2023. Punch list walk-throughs will begin August 18, 2023, and be completed by October 13, 2023. Final inspections are scheduled to

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be completed by October 20, 2023. A ribbon cutting is expected for January 2024, before the beginning of the winter basketball league.

**Adult Wellness and Education Center**

Mr. Olsen said work continued at the Adult Wellness and Education Center, and curb/gutter and electrical work are being done. He said the project should be completed by late summer, and Staff will work with the operator for approximately 30 days to get the facility up and running. A ribbon cutting is expected in mid to late October.

**Cherry Creek Park**

Mr. Olsen said a new accessible playground, site furnishings, landscape enhancements, and sod work were completed at Cherry Creek Park, and a playground dedication/ribbon cutting was held on May 3, 2023, at 5:30 pm.

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ITEM 3, being:

**DIVISIONAL UPDATES**

Mr. James Briggs, Park Development Manager, said bids were received, and work began at Bentley Park, which will include a play area, tennis, pickleball, and basketball courts, a perimeter walking trail with fitness stations, a large picnic shelter, and large areas of native prairie plantings. He said the park is scheduled to open later this year. Mr. Briggs said Staff anticipates the construction at Sutton Wilderness to be done later this summer, and the project, designed by Parkhill Engineering, includes a 12-car parking lot addition and improvements to the south walking trail spur at George M. Sutton Urban Wilderness. Funding for the project is a combination of Community Park Funds and a Recreational Trails Grant from the State of Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation, which will pay 80% of the design and construction. Site analysis is underway for the new park at the corner of Alameda Street and Carter Avenue. Mr. Briggs said green infrastructure aimed at slowing, detaining, and treating stormwater runoff will be the main cohesive feature of this park. Staff selected Davey Resource Group to update the ordinance and urban right-of-way tree inventory. Mr. Briggs said this inventory will help the City determine areas over-populated with trees and/or a specific tree species.

Ms. Veronica Tracy, Recreation Manager, said a Sutton Wilderness cleanup is scheduled for this Saturday morning, May 6<sup>th</sup>, and the Mom Prom will be held later at the NOUN Hotel. She told participants attending the Mom Prom can choose from three separate event times, with the last dance at 7:30 p.m. reserved for moms and guests 21 years or older. Ms. Tracy said a @Legacy Park free concert is scheduled for May 19, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Legacy Park and will feature live music from Beau Jennings and The Tigers + Kyle Reid and The Low Swingin' Chariots. She said the Outdoor Movie Series (OMS) will begin on May 26, 2023, at Lions Park and feature *Top Gun: Maverick*! Ms. Tracy said Westwood Family Aquatic Center opens up on Memorial Day weekend for the season, and season passes are still available.

Mr. Wade Thompson, Facility and Parks Manager, said the Staff has been busy mowing City Parks and Facilities. He said Staff continues making repairs to water fountains and irrigation systems. Mr. Thompson noted Park Maintenance Staff also assists with the various events at City Parks.

**MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION**

Chair Wright asked for an update on the light repairs along Legacy Trail, and Staff said OGE continues to replace the lights with LED lights. Commissioner Moxley asked when Legacy Trail will be extended at James Garner to the south, and Staff said it is still under design and construction is a couple of years out.

Commissioner Sheriff congratulated Staff for a successful 2023 Earth Day.

Staff said Commissioner May resigned from the Park Board, and Staff has requested a replacement for the vacancy.

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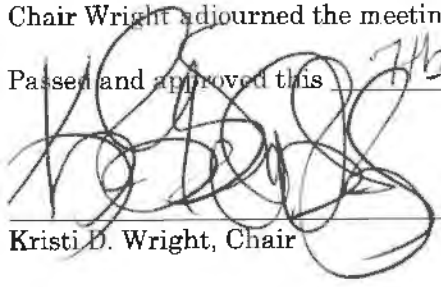
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**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Wright adjourned the meeting at 5:53 p.m.

Passed and approved this 7th of September 2023

  
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Kristi D. Wright, Chair**PARK TOUR**

The Park Board took a park tour beginning with the Young Family Athletic Facility (YFAC), the Adult Wellness and Educational Center, Griffin Park, Reaves Park, and finished at the site for the future Nature Park located at Alameda Street and Carter Avenue.

