



Minutes

Park & Rec Meeting

City Park – Railroad shelter by main playground equip.

Monday June 20th, 2022 - 5:15 PM

Park and Recreation

www.oelwein.fun

Call to Order: 5:23pm

Roll Call: Bouska, Burkhart, Gearhart, Johnson, Jorgensen, Lenz, Meska, Stasi

Attending: Bouska, Burkhart, Gearhart, Johnson, Lenz, Meska

Absent: Jorgensen, Stasi

Approval of Minutes

- Consideration of a motion approving the minutes of the May 16th, 2022, meeting

Motion: Meska

2nd: Bouska

Aye: All

Nay: None

New Board Member – Joe Bouska

Joe Bouska introduced himself as the newly appointed park and board member. Joe stated that he is a project engineer at East Penn. Joe stated he moved to Oelwein six years ago and is excited to serve on the board.

Celebration committee

Anthony Ricchio, Shawn Bentley, and Shawn Ster came to talk about completing another fundraiser event for City Park. Bentley told he has an event planned for October 1st to raise money to put fish in the lake. Johnson stated that he told Ricchio that the results from the fish survey he completed with the DNR concluded that the lake had plenty of fish and the DNR did not recommend adding more fish. Bentley stated they would like to keep raising money to help the community. Ricchio stated that they would like to keep the ticket booth at City Park, it was recommended that the booth be removed like it has been removed in the past. Ricchio stated that the committee is looking at options as the stage they utilize for the Oelwein celebration costs the committee \$3,500 a year to rent. Meska recommended their fundraising efforts be put towards a stage project. Gearhart recommended they get a plan together for a stage project so that they can present it, so the board has a clear idea of what they are proposing.

Airplane Project

Meska reviewed once again the cost of the airplane project and funding sources. Meska stated the plan is to now add a multicolor compass to the concrete pad and 4 inground lights. A historical marker would be added as well to the project.

Recreation Update

Burkhart stated that little league and men's league is in full swing with 34 games this week, with men's league half over. Burkhart stated that July 11-14 they will hold tennis camp in the afternoons. June is national park and rec month, so Burkhart is going to try a couple event in the parks this month. Burkhart said that she will offer coed softball this year as not enough interest last year. Burkhart stated that they are looking into fall programs, using the stadium for flag football again this year. Burkhart stated that they are looking for key fobs as their system is aging and possibly updating the whole program as a CIP item. Burkhart stated that they are looking at host business after 5 at wellness center and stated that they hired Angie Mendenhall as a trainer.

Trails Update

Johnson stated that the contractor, Bacon Concrete is expected to start in July on Segment 3 of the trails plan. Johnson stated that this segment will start at Levin Park on the SW and head northeast to cross 4th St. SW and the head east to South Frederick Avenue. Johnson shared that the 11-month total trail count is just under 19k which averages to 56 users a day.

Aquatics Update

Johnson shared that the pool opened on Memorial Day weekend as planned but the weather has not been working with them as it has been cool and windy the first couple of weeks but is turning around. Johnson stated that swim lessons started this past week with the summer school program. Johnson stated that all guards have their paperwork completed and paid. Johnson stated that season pool passes have been encouraging this season.

Parks/Cemetery Update

Johnson stated that the employees have been busy mowing, trimming, and completing as many projects as possible. Johnson stated that they are still short handed and are always looking for more employees. Johnson stated that they hauled the remaining safety fiber to the campground playground equipment area and to Reidy and Levin Park. Johnson stated that the past couple weeks have been extremely busy with Memorial Day weekend, putting up flags and taking them down at Woodlawn. Johnson said they had a great turnout for the holiday weekend at the campground. Johnson stated that the park guys helped do some extra work at the cemetery. Johnson stated they put up the hanging baskets downtown and they do look much better this year. Johnson stated they took picnic tables to the airport for the EAA event and finished pool preparations.

Johnson stated that the weather did not cooperate with them for the Celebration with cool temperatures. Johnson said he had the cemetery guys help with extra trimming at City Park for the celebration. Johnson said the new electrical system that the city installed for the committee worked great.

Johnson stated that they moved one of the free little libraries from wings school to sacred heart because it was being vandalized. Johnson stated that there are many ash trees that the department are removing when they can. Johnson stated that they removed the dead ash near the airplane this past week. Johnson stated that it took twice as long to bring that tree down in small pieces if the airplane project would have waited a few weeks like he suggested in the previous meeting.

Board Member Updates

Gearhart mentioned to the board that Bob Lape is being inducted into the softball hall of fame and would like as many people to attend as this is a great thing for the softball program. Gearhart also talked about the 6/7 grade leagues and utilizing the middle school ball field. Gearhart also discussed the football program.

Adjournment 6:15pm

Next Meeting: July 18th @ City Hall