



RECREATION BOARD MEETING

Monday, October 26, 2020, at 7:03 PM
275 West Main Street

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: David Harris, Chad Finch, Jessica Tolman, Spencer Hintze, Erin Jarret, Nick Miller, Sara Olson

OTHERS PRESENT: Leisure Services Director John Bradley, Recreation Supervisor Bryan Mecham, and Recreation Assistant/Board Secretary Emily Waters

INVOCATION/INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT: Leisure Services director John Bradley gave the invocation

MEETING MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes held on August 10, 2020, August 24, 2020, (No meeting held in September)

PUBLIC FORUM:

PUBLIC COMMENT: Opened at 7:06

Kimberly Redd, a PTA president, is helping fundraise for a swing set near Orchard Hills Elementary. They have raised close to \$7,000 last year, however, due to Covid-19 they were not able to make enough money to purchase a swing set with the installation. Also, the school cannot expand the playground to place swings in there, this would mean that the swings would potentially need to be near the ballfields at Orchard Hills. Kimberly would like to bring the idea of purchasing swings for Orchard Hills to the recreation council to see if they can receive funding and find a potential space for the swing sets. An estimated cost of installation with the swing sets would be about \$56,000. Leisure Services Director John Bradley was able to give an idea of a company that could potentially help with the project. John then explained that this is a project that does not need to be decided on tonight but is one that the Recreation Board could be thinking of. Board Member Jessica Tolman asked if the swings could be used by the kids during school time and Kimberly said that they could.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Closed at 7:12

The Recreation Board then discussed the proposed idea, Board Member Jessica Tolman asked what the preference would be for the swing sets to be placed on either city property or school property. Recreation Supervisor Brian Mecham said that he could only see the swings placed near the batting cages if they are to be on city property. Jessica asked about the schools placing them on the playgrounds and John said that the schools are unable to place the swings there because of lack of funding. Board Member Chad Finch asked if the school or city has a policy on swings and if that is why they have not been placed. So far, the Board and Kimberly are not sure if the city allows swings or not. The board all said that they liked the idea and that the best thing to do for the swing sets would be to ask for rap tax money.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Fall Sports Update

New: Youth Cross Country, September Racquet Sports Drop-In, Disc Golf Course

Leisure Services Director John Bradley talked about the youth cross country program. The program had a good season with around 24 participants and Santaquin even got to participate in hosting a meet. The September Racquet Sports Drop-In went well, and an instructor stepped in to help coach. The Racquet Sports Drop-In rotated between tennis and pickleball. The disk golf course has been placed and is being well used.

Recently Completed: Adult Coed Softball & Youth Soccer

Recreation Supervisor Bryan Mecham said that the number of teams playing in Adult Coed Softball fluctuates from year to year. He then talked about Youth soccer; youth soccer has gone well. Bryan held a survey for youth soccer, most who filled out the survey liked things such as the jerseys, games on weeknights, medals, and the new soccer fields. People who filled out the survey did not like the half practice and half-game (for younger kids), people suggested practicing for 15 min and playing games for 45 minutes. Also, a high percentage of kids said they liked playing with other cities (older kids). Overall, almost everyone who filled out the survey said they would recommend Santaquin soccer to others.

Starting Soon: Youth Flag Football, Youth Volleyball, Youth Wrestling

Currently, we have flag football, and it is going well. The number of participants is fairly high this year. Volleyball is starting and the registration has not been the best this year. Bryan then talked about how indoor sports are difficult this year because the school requires the gym to be fogged after each use. With Covid-19 restrictions, spectators will also be cut down to one per player. Also, everyone in attendance will need to be wearing a mask. The board asked about how mask-wearing would be enforced? Bryan said that the schools are requiring it, people in the facility must wear the mask or the school will not let anyone in the school. By using the Schools, we need to abide by their rules, the schools can refuse to let us use the gym partway through the season. Board Member Nick Miller asked what would happen if the gyms are closed, and Bryan mentioned the possibility of refunding if the sports were hardly played. However, if the gyms close halfway through the season, that may result in a credit on their Santaquin recreation account instead of a refund.

2. Harvest View Sports Complex-Phased planning

Leisure Services Director John Bradley briefly talked about impact fees and how part of the money from them goes specifically to parks. One place the impact fee money can be used for is a Sports Complex at Harvest View. This is a three-part plan; the first part of the plan would be to develop a parking lot. Part two would be building eight pickleball courts, and the third part would be developing sidewalks that meet at the restrooms. This plan includes the landscape surrounding the complex and the three items that would be developed. John mentioned that the plan was taken to the city council and they approved it and are looking at how to put this into action. The board talked about the possible fire station that could be added to a plot in the park and how it would not be in the baseball fields but off to the side. The board then talked about a company that could help with the pickleball courts and about potentially placing lights on the courts due to how popular the sport is. The board also discussed the idea of having more restrooms on the complex than were previously suggested. The board thought more restrooms would be a good idea however it was also mentioned that having three different spots for restrooms did not make too much sense. Board Member Jessica Tolman asked if we currently had the money needed to complete all three-phased. John mentioned that they currently do not have enough money but should soon.

3. Theodore Ahlin Park Discussion-Phased planning

Theodore Ahlin Park can receive money from the impact fee, because of this the board looked at the current plans and the funds that it currently had due to the RAP tax. John presented what

the frisbee golf course looks like now that it is installed and how much it cost to build the course. John mentioned that another plan with the park was to place a pavilion, he then mentioned that it might be a better idea to place down two pergolas with picnic tables instead of the pavilion. John asked if there is any feedback and Jessica suggested using steel instead of wood to help the picnic tables last longer. Bryan also added that cleaning would be easier if the pergolas and picnic tables were made from a material other than wood.

John then gave different ideas of how the extra money placed towards Ahlin Park could be used. One of the ideas was to build a dock, however, because docks are costly John suggested dropping cement blocks for fishermen to stand on. The board then talked about safety with the blocks and potentially placing railing on them. Another idea is to have a trail from the reservoir to a bench or pergola on one of the hills. The last idea John wanted to introduce was a play structure, John then gave three different ideas for what a play structure would look like. John asked what the Board would recommend out of the ideas offered.

Jessica asked if a play space would be more of a priority than the fishing area, Board Member Nick Miller responded by saying that the fishing access would be the biggest priority. He also mentioned that the pergolas and picnic tables will probably cost more than John anticipates. Recreation Supervisor Bryan Mecham mentioned that a playground at Alhin Park is a bit worrisome due to the reservoir close by. He suggested placing the play structure further away from the reservoir and potentially building a fence around the space. Board Member Chad Finch said he thinks fishing should be supported before the other items mentioned. Nick mentioned that the blocks would be a good idea of what to start with. John also mentioned that there is a grant that could be used to help pay for the fishing area amenities and he could reapply to it for usage. The grant is determined by how many people go to the park and John mentioned that a play structure would be a good idea to get more people to the park. By having more people at the park, our chances would be better to receive the grant. John mentioned that two structures would help motivate people to go to the park, these being a play structure and something to help with fishing. The board agreed that something such as a play structure would be a good starting point.

4. Basketball Court update

The basketball court will not be worked on until the sprint. The goal is to have the courts finished by the next Orchard Days. The courts are already budgeted, we are now waiting for the company to be ready to install them.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES, QUESTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS

NEXT MEETING

Will be in January

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Nick miller made a motion to adjourn. All were in favor, the meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Board Chair

Recorder