

Park Board Minutes  
July 13, 2004

Member's present: Candy Sullinger, Mitch Holmes, Jeff Justus, Joe McDowell, Beverly Martin, Mark Sill, Wes Stoner, Kent Vanderpool and Julie Wolfe.

Member's absent: Tim Finestead

Staff present: Cindy Shook, Deanna Schlegel, Larry VanGilder, Shari Risley and Frank Schoneboom.

Julie Wolfe made a motion to approve the May minutes. Motion was seconded by Wes Stoner. All were in favor.

Business:

1. The financial report dated May 31, 2004 was presented by Finance Director Deanna Schlegel. Deanna reported that both North Beach and Mang Field cost centers were being expensed out. She said that she was pleased to see the campground revenues doing so well and that there were not as many transfers of capital projects and the bottom line looks really good. Kent Vanderpool asked if we would see any revenue from the sale of Mang Field rocks and Deanna said that the sale amount was approximately \$500 and would be added next month. Mitch Holmes asked if rocks were still for sale and Larry VanGilder replied that they would be, starting next week. Mark Sill asked how the pool would be depreciated since it was gone and Deanna said it would be a total depreciation. Mark asked if the line items of the pool, Mang Field, and North Beach would be eliminated? Deanna responded that those line items would stay to year-end and next year would see the addition of new line items associated with the Recreation Center Complex. Wes Stoner asked if there was any tennis revenue and Deanna said there would be and it would show up later. Kent asked about ownership of the Boy Scout Building and Deanna replied that it was owned by the city and there were no expenses and nothing budgeted this year. Candy Sullinger asked if others used the building and Deanna answered that she did not believe they did. Candy asked if there were any further comments, there were none and she thanked Deanna for her report.

2. The next item on the agenda was an update on the progress of the Recreation Center Complex. Cindy asked if any members had been back out to the site and added that the site is really taking shape. Progress included the completion of the south detention footings and re-enforcing steel is being placed for the wall sections. Last month saw the Hwy 248 tie-in 70% complete. On completion of that the Branson Hills tie-in will start. Cindy added that once the frame starts going up she hopes to have publicity photos in the News-Leader depicting the progress. Mitch asked if we were behind schedule and Cindy answered that we are behind at this time due to a 46-day delay in Carson-Mitchell getting the building pad from the rough grading contractor, mainly due to weather delays in the spring. In addition, some over-blasting had occurred in the area of the pool and building pad, requiring fill and compaction. The contractor, Carson-Mitchell, hopes to be able to make the time up.

3. The 2005 Capital Improvement Projects was the third agenda item. Cindy stated that the proposed capital improvement projects for fiscal year 2005 had been provided to the board for the last few

meetings and asked if there was any further discussion. Cindy added that the budget will be presented to the Board of Alderman in late August or early September for consideration. Candy asked how many new vehicles were being proposed and Cindy stated that the \$60,000 budget included three new vehicles, which would be used by new staff at the Recreation Center as well as the Horticulturalist. Cindy stated that the green house that is being proposed will be used to propagating annual and perennial plants for parks. Cindy added that the horticulturist, Casey Jo Earl, had already begun taking cuttings and propagating plants, having received some assistance from Don Grant, groundskeeper for the golf-course, in building tables and frames.

Jeff Justus asked about budgeting for the master trail plan? Cindy responded that money has been budgeted again in Engineering for the trails plan but was not certain of the amount. Cindy asked Larry and Frank Shoneboom if they knew the amount and they did not at this time. Candy stated that approval of the staff recommendation for the fiscal year 2005 capital improvement requests were before the board at this time for consideration. Jeff Justus made a motion to approve the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Joe McDowell. All were in favor.

4. The future fee structure at the recreation center was the next item to be discussed. Candy asked Cindy to talk about the fee structure and Cindy said we are starting to work on that and will be coming in with a recommendation, there is a big challenge ahead to develop the facility and proposed fee schedule. Cindy reported that she had, at Terry Dody's request, spoken with Ron Herschend about the County's participation in the capital or operations of the recreation complex. Cindy stated that it was her hope that the county would want to subsidize non-residents participation so that non-resident fees would possibly not have to be charged. Ron expressed no interest in this and basically said he understands that expenditures will be increasing and that we need to do what we have to do.

Cindy said that last years resident versus non-resident study indicated that about 80% of participation is non-resident, and the members may recall that information was presented to the County Commission in hopes they would consider participation, they responded by giving the city \$5,000 and gave the same amount to Hollister and Forsyth, neither has a parks and recreation program. Cindy stated that she was looking for a vote of support on the concept of non-resident fees, and indicated the research would be labor intensive to bring it to the board for consideration. Joe asked if Ron indicated why the commission was not interested and Wes asked if it was Ron's opinion or the Commission's and Cindy replied that she thought that it was Ron's. Candy commented that Cindy had met with the full Commission last year. Mitch asked what type of impact would it make as to whether or not the non-resident fees are charged? Cindy stated that she did not have the figures at this time. Discussion continued as to what constitutes non-resident versus resident and how far out the boundaries would extend, whether or not people who shop and work in the city but do not live within the city limits and whether the fees would make a big difference or not. Candy asked whether some cities charged non-resident fees "across the board" or if it varied from program to program? Cindy answered that it varied, while some cities charge non-resident fees on some programs and other cities not at all. Wes commented the fee structure could be such that having "membership" could result in discounts for some facilities or services at the new Recreation Center. Cindy reported that city administration would like to see some type of daily use fee, Candy said the non-resident fees concept is one the board would be struggling with and suggested Cindy report back with more information as it becomes available. Cindy stated that she would be happy to provide that information. Cindy told the board her goal as always was to bring in as much revenue as possible and keep the cost of programs for kids reasonable. Wes asked, if, as an advisory board, we suggest

not going with non-resident fees and the city council would like to see those fees in place, how much influence the board would have? Cindy suggested that Bev Martin might have a suggestion as to how that would be received and Bev replied that, in her opinion, the presentation would not fall on deaf ears. Cindy said we will need to have something in place by next spring to indicate a pricing schedule, possibly in conjunction with Skaggs, either in a catalog or calendar format by January or February. Candy asked if there were communities that do not have non-resident fees and Cindy answered yes. Candy commented that Branson was a unique community, having a relatively small population but whose services were used by so many.

5. Cindy reviewed the FYI items, including the recreation department update. Cindy reported the Jackie Stiles Camp was held last week at the Branson Cedar Hills Gym with over 50 boys and girls from grades 2<sup>nd</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> participating. Jackie was present during the camp. Cindy told the board the youth tennis clinics are really booming, largely due to instructor Michael Collins, with 5 weeks of clinics and one more week scheduled we anticipate participation by over 90 kids. We asked if a new play panel had been installed at Stockstill and Cindy said yes, that we wanted to put in something more ADA compliant and replacing a broken log roller with the stationary activity provides a play station for kids who cannot access the upper level of the playground.

#### Member's Report

1. Mark Sill reported there was still a mosquito problem at Stockstill park and asked if we were spraying for that. Candy asked Mitch if there wasn't discussion about spraying earlier this year and Mitch said Chemlawn had sprayed mostly for weeds but could have included mosquitos. Joe McDowell said that Stockstill had drainage problems in the past and thought it had that been fixed. Mark asked if we had started selling banners on the fence, Cindy answered no, they are for youth baseball sponsors, resulting in \$5,000 additional income, and that the banners would come down immediately following the season. Cindy explained that sponsors are also listed on the backs of shirts which result in requests for sponsorship by others. She will present plaques to sponsors again this year with pictures of the teams that were sponsored to thank them for their support of the sports program.

2. Joe asked if there was any possibility that additional signage marking fields #1 and #2 could be added to better direct people to the Alexander Ball Fields? He added that it was confusing to determine which field was what and Mitch agreed that additional signage might be helpful. Joe also said that he had a golfer complain to him about the course being closed in the evenings for golf league and he thought it was not every evening, it just happened to be the evening the golfer had chosen to play.

3. Jeff Justus discussed update of the Trails Master Plan and growing interest in them. In addition, he had heard a concern from a tennis player who thought the trail might be distracting and wondered if this or other concerns were possibly holding up the progress. Candy asked Larry if he could answer that and he said he could not but would make a note. Mark suggested windscreens could be put up behind the fence. Joe added that there was already an existing sidewalk there now.

4. Julie Wolfe asked how much competition we will be facing from the YMCA when their new

facility is open? Julie stated that she had received a YMCA flyer in the mail. Cindy answered that the YMCA is still trying to raise funds for their project, and if it does come to fruition, their membership rates listed in the flyer are for their existing facility in Hollister, not what they will be for the proposed new facility. Cindy added that while there will be some cross over in programming, there will also be a lot of difference. Julie asked Larry if the Mang Field rocks were still available and Larry said there is a stockpile and would be \$1 each until gone.

5. Bev Martin gave an update on the Branson Waves swim team. The team was doing very well and had placed in every meet and hopes to finish well and bring home a trophy. They have 40 team members traveling to Ozark for practice. Bev said she made a challenge to the media for donations to offset travel expenses and had gotten some response. She invited everyone to come out to Pointe Royale and look over the new aquatic center. Bev pointed out that she had had numerous inquiries regarding a covered pool, and felt the issue needs to be revisited. Cindy stated that pro-active steps had been taken at the building site for future expansion of an indoor pool by over-blasting in that area. If the city decides to add a pool in the future, this step will save a great deal of money.

6. Wes Stoner asked about the games scheduled for youth baseball and softball and how many had been rained out? Cindy answered that Paula Morgan puts more games into the schedule to allow for rainouts, and that this year actual games played had been charted and gave some teams the opportunity to makeup a game. Wes asked if it would be appropriate for the recreation staff to attend meetings to give park board members opportunity to visit with them and Cindy said that would be no problem.

7. Kent Vanderpool said the Disc Golf course was a good decision and added something more to Sunset park. Cindy answered that Steven Poe had framed up the T-pads and the signs would be coming in, there have been some calls inquiring about the disc golf.

Adjourned 6:30pm