

Seymour Parks & Recreation Department
Board Minutes
October 17th, 2022

Seymour Parks & Recreation Board met at Seymour City Hall on Monday, October 17, at 4 pm. Members in attendance were Monica Riley, Art Juergens, Kendra Zumhingst, and Tim Ferret. Members of the Parks Department present were Stacy Findley, Tracey Cole, Chad Keithley, and Allycen Wheeler. Mayor Matt Nicholson was also in attendance. From the Tribune, Zach Spicer attended.

Monica called the meeting to order. A motion to approve the September minutes was made by Kendra and seconded by Tim. A motion to approve the August claims was made by Kendra and seconded by Art.

Tim made a motion to approve both the 502 and 506-9 August balances. Kendra seconded the motion. Motion carried for approval of both funds.

Updates:

- Stacy discussed the issue of homelessness in our community as well as our parks. She stated that there are at least 12 individuals living within our parks now, moving from one park to another. She feels that we should possibly join with different organizations and form a committee to seek help for the homeless. There are currently two facilities that offer shelter for the homeless, but these facilities require you to follow their rules and regulations, which isn't always easy.
- Stacy discussed that Jenna Martinez, with Read Jackson County, would like to supply the parks with Little Free Libraries. Jenna has reached out to Cummins to see if they would assist with a donation for the library kits for each park. Stacy stated that we would provide the quikrete and poles needed to set the libraries in the ground at the parks if this were to be approved. Kendra motioned to approve to move forward with the proposal and Tim seconded it. Motion carried.
- Stacy wants to submit a Jackson County Visitor Center Fall Grant in hopes of adding two additional pickleball courts at Gaiser Park. She asked if any board member would be interested in writing a letter of support for the pickleball courts; Kendra accepted the offer and Tim said he would too if needed. Tim motioned to approve to move forward with the proposal and Art seconded it. Motion carried.
- The Duke Energy Grant was awarded to the Parks and Recreation Department. With this award of \$10,000 the Parks Department will be able to plant around 1500 linear feet of trees. The trees will provide shade, assist in drainage, and act as a wind barrier at Freeman Field. There has been a Tree Board formed to assist in the planning of where the best placement would be for each type of tree; the planting will begin soon.
- Stacy has a meeting to discuss the IDOH grant on October 18th. She is currently aware that the grant has been reduced by 3% from \$1.1 million, and that Schneck will be the fiscal agent of the grant. Stacy stated that Gaiser Park, Westside Park, Kasting Park, and Freeman Field Recreational Complex will all benefit from this grant.
- The Seymour Oktoberfest has completed another successful year in 2022. Kendra mentioned that more seating would be nice and would like to see what we could possibly do for that. She stated that the Oktoberfest would be willing to assist in financing for the seating. Stacy discussed that we could research some durable, storable, and lightweight picnic tables and possibly store them at the Community Center until needed.
 - Chad stated that the Parks and Recreation department had 174 man hours involved; not including trucks and trailers. He is waiting to hear back from the other departments that assisted in the Oktoberfest to have a total on man hours.

- Mayor Matt presented the Parks and Recreation department's budget.
- Noon Lions have provided a grant for the Parks and Recreation Department in the amount of \$20k. This grant is to compensate for the roofing, siding, gutters, and bleachers at Kasting Park, after the severe storm damage in the spring.
- The veterans that have been maintaining the Veterans Memorial at Gaiser Park are asking for the Parks and Recreation Department to take over the responsibilities for the memorial. They are not able to perform these tasks any longer with their age. Kendra motioned to approve to move forward with the proposal and Art seconded it. Motion carried.

Program/Leagues Update:

Learn to Skate-October 22nd at Schurman-Grubb Memorial Skatepark in Shields Park

Kickball-Will be completed as of Oct 18th

Winter League Women's/Co-ed Volleyball- Registration ends Oct 18th. The first game is scheduled for the first week of November.

Soccer-Spring soccer will begin early February

Mixology-Making Spirits Brighter will be on Dec. 8th at Rails Craft Brew and Eatery from 6p-8p. The cost will be \$30.00 per person.

Park Incidents: Freeman Field Recreational Complex had two toilets in the women's restroom that had rocks in the flush valve, so it was keeping the flush valve wide open causing water to constantly flow. Chad stated it has caused a significant increase in our water and sewer bill. The repairs have been made to the toilets, and we are now looking to get possible reimbursements. Tracey has contacted Jackson County Water and they have stated that they will reimburse up to 40% of our bill for both September and October. Chad will be presenting the issue with the Board of Works to see if we are able to get any type of reimbursement for the sewer bill as well.

Reservation Requests: None presented

Miscellaneous Business: None presented

Kendra made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim seconded the motion. Motion carried to adjourn.

The next Parks Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 14th, at 4:00pm.