

City of Waite Park

Park Board Minutes

August 4, 2021

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Bowman at 6:30 P.M.

Members present: John Bowden, Wayne Lenzmeier, Janice Rein, Bruce Melin and Public Works Director Schluenz. One chair open.

Motion to approve the agenda by Member Lenzmeier, seconded by Member Melin. Agenda approved.

Motion to approve the minutes by Member Melin, seconded by Member Lenzmeier. Minutes approved.

Grants

Member Bowden reported that he is looking for ideas at the present.

AMP

Public Works Director Schluenz reported that there have been two events. The Rock Gods event was quite successful. Cinderella ran for 4 nights. There have been some bugs. There is an event this weekend and the Beach Boys are coming. Another event is scheduled for Sept. 12th. Feedback has been very positive. Member Bowden thought the lighting for Cinderella was great. Comments have been very favorable.

Park Updates

Public Works Director Schluenz reported that the Splash Pad had issues with the pumps, which have now been rebuilt and are working well. Hours of operation have been reduced due to the water reduction. The heat and wind have contributed to water loss.

With the water ban, all irrigation is off with the exception of an area with new trees planted.

The Pickleball Court is not yet completely repaired as there is trouble getting the fabric.

Steps are being taking to bridge the gap of not having a Landscape Coordinator and keeping the flower project running. Public Works Director Schluenz and Karla (from the office staff) will be meeting with the volunteers. He is asking for ideas regarding a new coordinator for the future.

Service Master have been hired to clean the restrooms for the rest of the season.

Other Business

Park Board

Two people have applied for the open Park Board position. This is going to the City Council and the selected person will be at the next Park Board meeting.

Budget

Member Bowden addressed the issue of a southern park. He expressed that there is a major need to begin looking for and obtaining the land as there is a great deal of expansion going on in Waite Park at this time. This park is a part of the Park Plan drawn up in 2008. Also, this plan needs to be updated. The City is looking at doing a strategic plan for land use so this is a time to redo the park plan.

Member Melin mentioned the need for a new fire station in south Waite Park. Member Bowden talked about the need for a community center, a rec. program, a Boys and Girls Club. Public Works Director Schluenz talked of music in the park.

Public Works Director Schluenz reminded us that we need to complete the parking lots and trails in River's Edge Park.

Member Rein mentioned the need for a greenhouse and Public Works Director Schluenz said that we need a grant for that.

Next Meeting

Wed., October 6, 2021 at 6:30.

Member Lenzmeier moved that we adjourn, Member Melin seconded. Motion carried.

Chairperson _____ Date _____

Secretary _____ Date _____