



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Parks and Recreation Commission

Thursday, October 17, 2019

7:00 PM

Regular

ARC Meeting Room

1701 W Ash

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Devine called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Present: 6 - Marin Blevins, Sue Davis, Daniel Devine, Meredith Donaldson, Ted Farnen and Chad Henry

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on a motion by Farnen, seconded by Blevins. Motion passed 5-0.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved on a motion by Blevins, seconded by Davis. Motion passed 5-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORT

Park Services Manager Gabe Huffington shared these highlights: golf course staff completed aerification and top dressing at both golf courses, horticulture and sports turf staff spent more than 350 hours completing construction items related to the cross country course and rangers issued a warning for failing to post an archery hunting permit. Recreation Services Manager Erika Coffman shared these highlights: first Gans Creek Classic had 2,274 runners with 10 total races, fall youth sports all experienced participation increases in September, total web registrations and ARC participations have increased, and personal training services have generated \$71,500 in revenue.

(Donaldson arrived).

Devine asked if the Gans Creek Classic would be held in 2020?

Coffman said it will be annual, and would likely be the fourth Saturday of September going forward. She described the race in more detail and how it would work related to the collegiate version of the Gans Creek Classic hosted by Mizzou.

Griggs added that once the turf is more established, more races can be accommodated.

Donaldson asked about monitoring at Stephens Lake Park?

Huffington said it is related to Citadel with asking people to leave the park after hours.

Davis asked about reports of camping?

Huffington said that could be either a tent or just items left in the park. More can be seen at this time of year with less tree cover.

**The monthly report was approved on a motion by Farnen, seconded by Davis.
Motion passed 6-0.**

V. STAFF PRESENTATION

Griggs introduced Cavelle Cole-Neal, the new administrative supervisor at the Gentry Building. Cole-Neal shared information about himself; he grew up in Columbia and actually worked as a CARE trainee and lifeguard for Parks and Recreation as a youth. He earned his degree at Central Methodist and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Public Administration. He credited staff Lida Gochenour, Paula Bell and Erika Witzke for helping his transition to his new job. Cole-Neal described his work to the Commission, including park special use and special event permits, HR liaison, purchasing, accounting and financial assistance.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS*Magnolia Falls Park*

Devine asked for the staff presentation prior to the public hearing.

Huffington described the project, which would be the development of a new park off Old Mill Creek Road adjacent to the Magnolia Falls and Mill Creek Manor subdivisions. The project is budgeted at \$125,000 from the 2015 Park Sales Tax. Park plan consists of trail improvements, playground, small shelter, open playfield, small parking lot, neighborhood connection and pond improvements. Interested parties meetings were held in July and September.

Huffington said neighbors did not agree with the first park plan so staff made revisions. The main difference is the addition of a small parking lot which is atypical of neighborhood parks.

He shared a map of the proposed park with more detail. A second phase would include a low water crossing. The neighborhood did not want a basketball court.

Devine opened the public hearing for comment. There was no one present for comment, so Devine closed the public hearing.

Farnen commented that he had attended the second public meeting in September and it seemed like most concerns had been addressed. He thought that's why no one was present tonight. He added that he thought the park would enhance that area. He asked about the target age for the playground?

Huffington said it would be mainly for ages 5-12.

Davis made motion, seconded by Farnen, that the Commission recommend the proposed Magnolia Falls Park improvements to City Council. Motion passed 6-0.

VII. NEW BUSINESS*Sports Fieldhouse dedication*

It will be held Nov. 14 with doors opening at 5 pm and ceremony starting at 5:30. Games are scheduled at 6 pm. The Commission discussed having a future meeting at the Fieldhouse.

VIII. REPORTS*Council Items*

Griggs said Magnolia Falls will be on an upcoming agenda, as will an agreement with MU Health Care for a court sponsorship at the Fieldhouse.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission Report

At the October meeting, the Commission heard updates on the Hinkson Creek Trail (Stephens Lake Park to Clark Lane) and the Shepard to Rollins Trail. They also reviewed and made comments on the draft Columbia Area Transportation Study Organization (CATSO) Plan.

Capital Project Report

Huffington shared these updates:

Clary Shy Park: Little Dixie Construction is building the small schoolhouse at the Park. Boone County Lumber is donating the wood.

Smiley Lane Park: new bench installed.

Gans Creek Recreation Area: new fencing being added.

Sports Fieldhouse: work continues including restrooms, meeting rooms, concession area, control desk, offices, and courts.

Recreation Services Report

Coffman shared these updates:

Gans Creek Classic: shared images, had shared details earlier.

Heritage Festival: Sunday was rained out, but Saturday was well-attended.

Sensory Touch-a-Truck: event held at Cosmo Park, smaller version of Tons of Trucks with no horns or sirens. Had about 500 in attendance, will likely become an annual event.

Golf: high school sectionals held.

Columbia Cup: annual karate event held at Armory.

Special Olympics: 55 athletes participated in Fall Games. Announcement was made that Summer Games will return to Columbia.

Paquin activities: crafts held there daily.

Preschool: activities continue to be popular.

Backpacking class: had several participants.

Upcoming events: Bear Creek Half Marathon, Halloweenie in the District, Bring Your Own Big Wheel, Night of the Living Shred skateboarding, Halloween Movie in the Park and Swimming Trunks or Treats.

IX. STAFF COMMENTS

Griggs commented that the December meeting is normally not held unless there is pressing business. The Commission agreed to not meet in December unless it is needed.

Griggs also said the Third Ward seat is open, Brendon Steenbergen moved from the ward and had to resign. The seat will be advertised. Devine pointed out that the 2020 census may cause some changes to the ward boundaries.

X. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Farnen asked about the CoMo Gives campaign?

Griggs said the poster unveiling will be at Walt's Bike Shop on Dec. 3, similar to last year's event.

Farnen added that the Gans Creek Classic had gone extremely well. He had been involved with the awards presentation and said he heard many compliments, with some saying this was the best meet they had attended.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE

Nov. 21 at 7 p.m.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm on a motion by Donaldson, seconded by Henry. Motion passed 6-0.

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