



Garden City Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Minutes August 22, 2022

I. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman, Erich Schaefer called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. on August 22, 2022, with members Prithvy Murthy and Marilyn Porter present. Isidro Marino and Brian Wilson were not in attendance. Staff included Parks and Recreation Director, Aaron Stewart, Superintendent, Jared Rutti and Finance Coordinator, Jessica Wikoff.

II. Approval of Agenda

Marilyn Porter moved to approve the agenda as presented. Prithvy Murthy seconded the motion; motion carried.

III. Public Comment

No members of the public were present for comment.

IV. Consent Agenda

The following shall stand approved/accepted as presented unless action is taken to remove an item from the consent agenda:

- Minutes of the Advisory Board Meeting held on July 25, 2022
- Staff/Participation Reports for July 2022

There being no comments or questions, the consent agenda stands as approved.

V. Superintendent's Report

Athletics: Superintendent, Jared Rutti informed the board that GCPR hosted the 12U Midwest Regional Cal Ripken Baseball Tournament. Teams from North Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado and Minnesota participated in this event. In addition, a 15U Tournament was also hosted. Those were the final games of the season.

The basketball camp hosted last month had 28 participants. That was slightly down from the prior year. However, the volleyball camp saw some growth in participants logging 38 registrants.

Fitness: The Siege was a well-attended event growing by 23% over the prior year for a total of 197 registrants. Bridget Clarke and her team did an excellent job of organizing the event and soliciting vendors to make the "after party" successful.

The repurposed mirrors from the 6th Street location were hung up around the Core Fitness facility. The staff has received great compliments in how the mirrors look.

Gymnastics: Tryouts were held for gymnasts wishing to join the Rec, Pre-Team and Team leagues. Total registration numbers are still forthcoming and will be reported in the next meeting.

Birthday Rentals are still very popular in our community. There are typically 4-5 parties each weekend filling nearly every available slot.

Arts: The Cry Baby production was a success. 261 tickets were sold over the three showings. Staff will plan to work with the Hilt sisters for the 2023 season.

Aquatics: The final Friday Night Events have all been completed. August 19th was the final Night Swim which had attendance of 460 patrons. The pool will be open weekends only for the next couple of

weeks. The largest challenge with this extended opening will be finding enough staff to operate the facility.

VI. Financial Reports for June 2022

Jessica Wikoff presented the financial report through July 2022. Preliminary totals show a net income of just nearly \$285,000. Expenses continue to trend comparatively to the prior year.

VII. Director's Report

Aaron Stewart shared the latest developments concerning the Southeast Community Park project. An RFP was released at the end of July calling for local artists to submit proposals for the Fitness Court mural. Staff is currently forming a selection committee that will be responsible for selecting and recommending the top three submissions to City Commission. Marilyn Porter expressed an interest in joining the committee. Prithvy Murthy nominated Marilyn Porter to the selection committee. Erich Schafer seconded the motion; motion passed. A selection meeting will be held in early October.

The Skatepark groundbreaking ceremony was well attended. After the ceremony, pictures were shared on facebook and received a lot of engagement. The construction is due to begin next week and the project is scheduled for completion by mid-November – early December. Staff will most likely plan a grand opening ceremony in the Spring of 2023.

Staff will be meeting with Hunden Strategic Partners to begin the process of gathering data for the feasibility study which will include the ice rink facility and a recreation center.

The following locations/projects have been identified as items to complete within the next 18 months:

- Restrooms at Rotary Park along the Talley Trail
- Cleaver restroom replacement/Cleaver Renovations
- Trail connections and entryway landscaping for Chappel Heights Housing Development

Staff is continuing to organize a combined RFP which will include restroom facilities at Rotary Park, Cleaver Field and Buffalo Dunes.

VIII. New Business

Based on extensive research on how other municipalities manage their advisory boards, Aaron Stewart made the suggestion to merge the Garden City Parks and Recreation Advisory Board with the Parks and Tree Advisory Board. As current and future projects require both boards and their perspectives; he explained that the merger would effectively pull resources from both boards and potentially save time. In his research of other entities, he has found that one municipality also partners with the school district and has a student or group of students on the advisory board as well. All members present were in agreement of the merger. Prithvy Murthy asked Aaron to continue researching how adding a youth member works for other organizations and suggested that it might be a good thing to try in Garden City as well to engage the youth and garner their perspectives on various projects. Aaron asked members to begin to consider future agenda items that they are most interested in hearing about as well as exploring a meeting time that might best suit the majority to ensure future quorum. Aaron was tasked with initiating the memo outlining the request that will be forwarded to City Manager, Matt Allen for approval.

IX. Unfinished Business

The group photo session was tabled for the next meeting when all members are present.

X. Garden City Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Questions and Comments

No questions or comments were presented for discussion at this time.

XI. Adjournment

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, September 26th at 12:00 p.m. at the Garden City Parks and Recreation building in Classroom 1. There being no further business, Prithvy Murthy moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Jessica Wikoff
Finance Coordinator

Approved: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Wikoff', written over a horizontal line.