

Smithville Parks and Recreation Committee

Regular Session Minutes

February 27, 2020 6:00pm

City Hall Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

Chairman Dani Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Members present: Chairman Dani Wilson, Molly Porter, Jim Pascoe, Josi Billings, Alderwoman Wilson, and Mayor Boley. Staff present, Matthew Denton and Cynthia Wagner.

2. Approve Minutes from October 26, 2019 Regular Session Meeting

Alderwomen Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 26, 2019 Parks and Recreation Committee meeting. Jim Pascoe seconded the motion. Voice vote, all ayes.

3. Staff Report

Main Street Trail Update and Public Meeting – The environmental review has been completed. Staff is working with the architects on final design and anticipating awarding a bid late spring. There was a public meeting held Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at Smithville City Hall. Engineers were able to answer questions and provide quality feedback. Citizens were also able to recommend trail amenities.

Comprehensive Plan Update and Meeting – Kick-Off for the Comprehensive Plan Update process was held in January, with good public attendance and participation. A link to a Plan Community Survey was sent out to each of you earlier this week. If you have not completed this survey yet, please do so as soon as possible. It can be found at <https://www.research.net/r/SmithvilleCompPlan>. The survey asks for opinion on areas discussed at the January kick-off meeting and will inform focus group discussion and work in the next steps of the process. The Recreation and Connectivity pillar focus group will meet on Monday, March 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Mid-Continent Public Library meeting room. That

Thursday evening (March 26), the week-long work of the task forces will culminate in a public meeting at 6 p.m. at the Smithville High School Cafeteria. This meeting will be in lieu of the regularly scheduled Park Committee meeting. You are strongly encouraged to attend both meetings.

Staffing – As you all know, Brett took a position with the City of Shawnee, Kansas and I am currently filling in as Interim Parks and Recreation Director. The City is advertising to fill the director position. The recruitment for the position closed on February 21, 2020. The interview process is underway. We have also added a Parks and Maintenance Worker 1 employee to our team. Gary Annis is a Smithville resident and is excited to get to work!

Recreation – Youth Basketball, Youth Volleyball and Adult Volleyball are all finishing up their season. Soccer Registration closed on February 23. Practices are scheduled to start next week. Baseball, Softball and T-Ball registration is still open until March 22.

4. Parks and Storm Water Sales Tax

Matt presented the ballot question that Smithville residents will be asked on April 7. Cynthia and Matt let the committee know that informational material is available as a handout and online at the City's website. Mayor Boley asked how much the half cent sales tax would generate. Matt mentioned that it would generate \$450,000.

5. Parks and Recreation Master Plan – HP Basketball Court

Matt informed the committee of the next steps to update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The plan will provide an inclusive framework, guidance and direction of our future needs concerning our parks, trails and facilities. Staff is recommending putting the construction of the Heritage Park basketball court on hold until the Master Plan is complete. Since there is no official plan for Heritage Park, staff would like to have a plan so that, as a whole, we are confident in the location of the basketball court and we will know where other amenities will be located at the park. Cynthia mentioned we currently have a lot of moving parts that could affect the future of Heritage Park. Chairman Dani Wilson mentioned that she would be disappointed if we put the basketball court in and then later had to remove it for future construction. She would prefer us to have a goal first and then work towards that goal. Jim mentioned that it is better to have a comprehensive plan because we will have a better layout for the future.

6. Future Meeting Dates Schedule

Chairman Dani mentioned that our next scheduled meeting will be on March 26, 2020. Matt mentioned the Recreation and Connectivity focus group will be on March 24 and encouraged the committee to attend. April, May, June, July will be regular scheduled meetings. We will discuss September on at a late date.

7. New Business

Chairman Dani asked if there was any more information on the dog park. Cynthia said her last communication was in late January. We had communication from the Army Corps. Of Engineers and they were working to complete and approve the plan. We are waiting for them to give us the ok to set the waterline.

8. Adjourn

Jim Pascoe made a motion to adjourn. call the meeting to adjourn. Mayor Boley seconded the motion. Voice vote, all ayes. Chairman Dani declared the regular session adjourned at 6:35pm.