

CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
PARK BOARD MEETING
RIFAC Room 3
Rock Island IL 61201

5/18/21– Minutes

1. Call to Order

President Fred Dasso called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. Attendance

Members Present: Fred Dasso, Bill Anderson, Moses Robinson, Mike Foley, John McEvoy

Members Absent: Kate Hotle

Staff Present: John Gripp, Executive Director; Todd Winter, Assistant Director; Kimberly Kruse, Parks Administrative Office Manager

Staff Absent: none

Audience: Venessa Taylor, Rock Island

3. April Park Board Minutes

Mr. Anderson motion to approve the minutes as written; Mr. Robinson seconded. All voted yes.

4. Thank you's from Unterschiedt Golf Outing and Alleman Heritage Ball were recognized. It was explained to the newer Park Board members about how the parks department give in kind contributions as donations.

5. Monthly Report from Finance Department as of March

There are going to be a lot of negatives in March financials as many of the facilities are not operating yet. This will change starting in April and going forward. There are still missing tax dollars that have not been received yet and are used to offset the park portions of the financials. RIFAC memberships and registrations are going back up as people get vaccinated and are starting to feel more comfortable. Whitewater Junction expenses are up due to a water leak and prepping maintenance for the new season.

Financials were reported to the board with a summary explanation of changes and discrepancies. There is a two month lag that will ensure that all revenues and expenditures are reported to give a more accurate look at the department financially.

6. Approval of the Bills for the Month of April for \$183,135.95.

Mr. Dasso: Aye Mr. Foley: Aye Mr. McEvoy: Aye Mr. Robinson: Aye
Ms. Hotle: Absent Mr. Anderson: Aye

7. Director's Report and other reports

The Director, Assistant Director and First Tee Director gave a presentation to Council. RFP's are done for the new Highland Springs clubhouse. Summer registrations are now open. Adopt a Park program is underway and going well. Starlight was supposed to be on tonight but will get rained out. Red, White and Boom will happen this year however there will be no VIP area this time. The horticulture crew are hanging baskets downtown. The Schwiebert dock will be repaired through working with Public Works and the Corp of Engineers. Douglas Park is going well. Phase I of the electrical project is underway. Phase II will be the polls and installation. Weber Park sign is completed and now working on getting some up lighting. Kiwanis bike path refurbish project is almost complete.

Highland Springs clubhouse planning underway and working on deciding a construction management firm. Once they are picked, a press release will be done and another round of fundraising. The goal is to break ground by November. Several leagues are underway and the numbers are up. The first outing is this Friday with Transitions. The people are ready to golf.

Deep aerification is underway for golf maintenance. Verticuts and brush cuts are done as well. Several bunkers at Highland Springs are under construction.

John walked through the graphs to show the ebb and flows of revenue in regards to seasonal services and facilities. Water is in the pool for Whitewater Junction and training has started. May 22nd and 23rd are fitter and faster swim clinics ran by an Olympic Gold Medalist. Staff is hiring for the pool, golf courses and programs. Earth Day was a success with a clean up at Mel McKay Park and gave away seeds. Six adoptions are already done for the parks. These adoption groups will help with painting, planting and minor repairs at their respective locations. QC Rock Academy will be performing this Saturday at Schwiebert Park. There are several summer sports programs and sports camps coming up. The Alleman/Rockie game at Douglas was a huge success and will be broadcasted on Mediacom.

Park Maintenance resides in the Public Works budget. Horticulture and Sports Field Maintenance are in the Parks budget. Lighting issues are being worked on at the Complex. Equipment is being installed at the Dog Park. Intown fields are coming along. Mowing contracts are underway with some minor adjustments. The plant sale last weekend was a great success. Some controlled burns have been done.

8. New Business

Special Event Application: Ballet Quad Cities

Staff recommends approval of the Ballet Quad Cities event on May 27th, 2021 at Schwiebert Park with amplified sound. Mr. McEvoy motioned. Mr. Robinson seconded. All voted yes.

Special Event Application: RIHS Class of 96 Reunion

Staff recommends approval of the RIHS Class of 96 Reunion on July 31st, 2021 at Schwiebert with amplified sound, food and alcohol. Mr. Anderson motioned. Mr. Robinson seconded. All voted yes.

Special Event Application: Tristan – Johnson Wedding

Staff recommends approval of the Tristan – Johnson Wedding on October 1st, 2021 at Schwiebert with amplified sound. Mr. Robinson motioned. Mr. Foley seconded. All voted yes.

9. Old Business

Thank you to Moses Robinson and Kate Hotle for their service on the Park Board.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Anderson. Mr. Robinson seconded. All voted yes.

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.

Kimberly B Kruse,
Parks & Recreation
Admin Office Manager