

Park Board Minutes
January 19, 2010

Members Present: Candy Sullinger, Joe McDowell, Jeff Justus, Florence Parnell, Julie Wolfe, Gabe Miller and Kent Vanderpool

Staff Present: Cindy Shook, Preston Peper, Marsha Fulton

Visitors: Jane Friggle

Julie Wolfe made a motion to approve the Park Board minutes from December 15, 2009.

Joe McDowell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Business:

1. Candy Sullinger called the meeting to order. Cindy Shook welcomed our guest, Jane Friggle to the meeting. The first item on the agenda was financial reports for the first two months of the new budget year. Candy handed the floor over to Cindy Shook to discuss the report. Cindy explained that the first report is as of October 31, 2009, one month into the three month budget. The second report is as of November 30, 2009, reflecting two months into the three month budget. Cindy explained to new member Florence Parnell and our guest that the report compared last year's revenue and expenses to the same time this year. She reviewed the report with the board and commented that program revenues are up while expenses are down, and that the department had really been keeping a close eye on spending. Cindy reported that the Park's Department had received an unsolicited donation of \$1,000 from the Taney County Commission last fall to help with flooding damage at Stockstill Park.
2. Next on the agenda was the department's new organizational chart. Cindy stated that she wanted to review the new staffing structure with the board since the retirement of Public Works Director Larry VanGilder. In the past, the maintenance of the parks was under the responsibility of Public Works and now, due to the reorganization, that responsibility is now our departments. Cindy then went on to explain the chart, who was where and what new employees and responsibilities have been added. Cindy then concluded that she is excited about this new challenge and everyone is adjusting to their new scope of work.
3. Next on the agenda was proposed new programs for 2010. Preston took the floor to discuss with the board some of the new projects, some of which have fees and some of which are free as part of the city council goal of "seeking ways to provide more programs free or at a minimal cost and consider partnerships with other youth focused organizations". Senior Wii bowling has expanded to include even more people at the Community Center. A junior high dance is still in the brain storming stage but it would include staff and chaperones. Movie Night, this year there will be two, one in the pool and one on the soccer field and this event will be run in conjunction with the Boys and Girls Club. We are also meeting with the Boy Scouts to develop a joint program or possibly a safety fair. Special Olympics may expand this year from a local to a regional event to build on the success of last year. A "Quarter Man" will take place right before the Iron Man comes to Branson in September as a tune up event. Youth sports specialist Kelli Tucker is expanding the popular youth soccer camp taught by British instructors to now include a "Bit of Britain" camp that teaches the non-traditional sports such as cricket and rugby. A photo contest will be offered in 2010 to

encourage more usage of the parks and community involvement. Shakespeare in the Park, this was very successful program last year conducted at Stockstill Park that will be expanded to include two different plays, one in June and one over Labor Day. Several members voiced their feedback and approval. Candy stated that it sure sounded like we had a lot of exciting programs.

4. Next on the agenda was the North Beach Park ruling. Candy asked Cindy if she would like to explain what had happened. Cindy explained that there was a lawsuit regarding ownership of North Beach park from a Doug Coverdale, who claimed to have title to the property rather than Empire Electric. The lawsuit went to a jury trial due to the competing deeds to the land and there was a judgment against Empire Electric. Candy asked if this meant that we could lose North Beach Park? Cindy stated that yes that could be a possibility, and Empire and the City are deciding on a response to the jury's decision and an appeal is anticipated.

5. Next on the agenda is the FYI Items, the Parks and Recreation Update. Candy asked if anyone had any comments, and with no response she moved on to the next item on the agenda.

Member's Report:

1. Florence Parnell shared with the board all the hard work Senior Center Director Chris Thompson had put in to the Gong Show, which is a benefit for Meals on Wheels. She stated that the first round of auditions had been wonderful, and she encouraged everyone to attend the February 23rd production.
2. Candy stated that it was nice to have Jane Friggle in attendance and she hoped that she would come back.

Meeting adjourned 6:05 pm