

Columbia City Park Board Minutes May 21, 2012

The Columbia City Parks Board met in regular session with the following members present:

Park Board President Mark Ellis
Park Board Vice President Terry Baker
Park Board Member Dennis Warnick

Members Absent:

Park Board Secretary Mauri Bordner
Park Board Member Keith Nickolson

After reviewing the minutes of the April 23, 2012 meeting, Dennis Warnick made a motion, which is seconded by Terry Baker, to accept the minutes as corrected. On call of the vote, all voted aye.

Park Superintendent Mark Green presented an update on the Burnworth Pool. The Contractors looked at the pool for over four hours and agreed the pool was in bad shape. They will have a report ready in 2 to 3 weeks. Mark stated, the mild winter made getting the pool ready for this summer easy. Redman's inspected the pool and found the boiler is leaking and the heater broken. They quoted a price of \$ 17,000.00 to replace it. Superintendent Green stated the pool makes \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 on swimming lessons each summer. Mark stated during discussions with HWC, they were surprised we still heated our pool. Mark was asked by Park Board members to check into cost of a solar cover. After much discussion, Dennis Warnick made a motion to go without a heater for the 2012 season, which is seconded by Terry Baker, all voted aye.

Mark Green, Park Superintendent gave an update on the Blue River Trail. The bids are good until June 11, 2012. The DNR has the Environmental Study completed from moving the bridge and are waiting on the appraisal of the land. Mark is working with a realtor from Fort Wayne and has consulted with Marsha McNagny, Columbia City's Attorney. If the land owner agrees to donate the land, the Park can bypass the appraisal. Mark stated he is trying to finish everything by June 11th.

Park Superintendent Mark Green presented the Park Budget review. The repairs in the park are at 58% this time of the year. Mark stated, the Event Assistant position is done on May 31st and the computer upgrades and fireworks are done for this year.

Mark Green stated work will start next week on Devol Field after locates are completed. Superintendent Green stated the Park Office hours have officially changed and has been a good decision.

Mark Green reported that many of the park locations are being drilled with graffiti. It has been done under the bridge at Morsches Park, bathrooms on Whitley Street, the overlook at YMCA, the slide and playground equipment at Patriotic Park, the Skate Park, the bathrooms at Kids Dreamland, and the Pow Wow Sign. Terry Baker asks if cameras could be located in places to see at night. Dennis Warnick suggested cameras be placed at Kids Dreamland and Devol Field.

Superintendent Green presented the report on the future usage of the parks. Mayor Daniel stated the hope is that the property owners on either side buy them or that each want a piece and split it, but they will be a bid process. Dennis Warnick stated he is in favor of doing away with the three parks and working with the county to create one park. Dennis talked with Tom Rethlake about the alley between Ball Furniture and the County Government Building being dedicated to Mayors/Commissioners Park.

Vice President Terry Baker presented a baseball updated stating there have been a few minor issues but the year has gone well. He states some issues have arisen with the umpires and minor situations. Terry would like to propose that umpires get paid quicker than two weeks. He states they are paid \$10.00 for Lob Ball and \$20.00 for a Minor/Major game as umpires. Mayor Daniel and Mark Green will talk to Rosie Coyle about a change in payment schedule.

Mark Green informed the Board that the 5K Run will be July 14th to raise money for fireworks. He has an intern working from Huntington College who is putting together weekly day-camps and informed the board that a Junior Golf Tour will be conducted on three different days this summer.

The next meeting will be on June 25, 2012.

As all business was discussed, the Board Adjourned.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Andrea R. Pequignot, Administrative Assistant Parks Department.