Berkley Parks and Recreation Advisory Panel Meeting Minutes 3/14/2019

Attendance: Jes Alger, Greg Patterson, Gary Polk, Mike Kerby, Betty Smith
City Council Member: Bridget Dean
Absent: John Nicolai, Joshua Pollard
Parks and Recreation: Theresa McArleton

Call to order: 7 PM
Approval of prior minutes: Motioned by Gary Polk and Seconded by Betty Smith
Guest Comments: Adrian from Friends of Parks and Rec: Thanks for the support of the recent euchre party. It was a huge success. Thanks to Gary Polk for all he did to help make it successful. They are currently planning for next year. They also have plans to continue to update the Oxford Merchant Park this year. Her group is also considering sponsoring several other events this year.
Matter of Program Update:
The spring Buzz is out and has a list of all programs coming. Senior chair yoga and enhanced fitness have been a huge success. Many of the senior trips have been sold out. Dan is doing a phenomenal job making sure the seniors are being engaged with their activities. The Friday drop in play has received great reviews and parents are thankful this is being offered.
Matter Winterfest wrap-up:
It is estimated that 900-1000 people attended this free event. Staff did an amazing job to make sure the event went so well. Planning for 2020 has started. It was suggested by B. Dean to somehow incorporate city businesses next year.
Matter of budget notes:
The proposed budget was submitted. There will be meetings with city staff soon to discuss. Some of the larger items that are being asked for include: drainage at Lazenby Field, heavy-duty tractor, zero turn mower, copier, playgroup for Oxford Merchant Park and Jaycee Park, tennis courts at Anderson, parking at Oxford Merchant Park. Staff salary increases are not being asked for this budget. This budget covers two years so some of the items are being asked for are in the second year. The parks and rec staff is unsure which budget the demo of the ice area will come from, this will be discussed with the city manager. The last estimate for the demo was around $260,000.
Matter of spring/summer prep:
Currently looking for seasonal ground crew/outdoor maintenance. Anderson signed an agreement to allow summer camp to be held at the middle school again. May 11th will be the district gives back day. Summerfest and Dream Cruise events are currently being planned. Summer camp enrolment is currently open and staff is seeing a good response.
Matter of fundraiser for Dad’s Club:
Batting cages are going to be added to the community center field. They are being donated by the Dad’s Club and will be placed on the right side of the field.
Comments:
Jes A.: The RO band that she is in is looking to play a concert in a park this season, details to follow.
Bridget D.: City Council has approved Berkley Days, has signed a 5-year contract with HRC for city engineering, has been working with other councilmembers to finalize emergency preparedness plan.
Mike K.: Thanked the Dad’s Club for their donating the batting cages, staff for all they do to make our parks and rec department better, and the school board for their relationship with the city.
Theresa M.: SOCS, community soccer, will be using Oxford Merchant park. Arbor Day events are being planned to include Tale on the Trail at 4/26 at 6 PM. Discussion on changing the name of the Oxford Tower Park to Friends Park is being had with city staff. Thanked staff and Matt B. for their support to her.
Greg P.: Would like to thank staff for all the dedication and hard work, they do a great job with the resources they have. Also asked how to get community groups to the meeting. Thanked the Friends group for their fundraiser and involvement.
Gary P.: Thanks Amanda and Dan for their work on the Buzz. Has been enjoying his walks in the city parks.
Betty S.: Impressed with the senior activities held for the senior residents. Dan and James have made the trips she attended great. Thanked Scott for his involvement with the youth assistance program.
Meeting Adjourned at 8:42 PM Motioned by Jes Alger and seconded by Gary Polk