

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ADVISORY PARK BOARD
CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI
January 21, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The Advisory Park Board of the City of Branson, Missouri, met in Regular Session at the Branson RecPlex on January 21, 2025 at 5:15 PM. The meeting was called to order.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Candy Sullinger, Marshall Howden, Scott Wuest, Michael Young, Jeremy Bluto and Donald DeHart. Members Absent: Scott McCaulley, Mica Farley, Lane McConnell, Dacia Vigna.

REGULAR AGENDA:

1. APPROVAL OF ADVISORY PARK BOARD MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 19, 2024 REGULAR MEETING.

Scott Wuest moved to approve the item, seconded by Jeremy Bluto.

Voting aye: Sullinger, Howden, Wuest, Young, Bluto, DeHart. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

2. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT.

Cindy Shook provided a review of the November 30, 2024 Financial Report. Cindy highlighted the concession and tournament cost centers for their increase in revenue this year, remarking that while the net revenue was similar to last year, it covered the new full-time staff that was hired to oversee those areas. Cindy indicated that the new college softball tournaments will begin in January. She reported that the campground continues to trend down about 6%, but the area average is closer to 20%. Cindy highlighted the capital budget expenditures including the turf, campground expansion, community center improvements and upgrades to the parks. Marshall commented that it bodes well for the department that the Tournament Director and Concession Supervisor positions are paying for themselves.

3. UPDATE FROM JIM CARTRIGHT, PARK MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT.

Jim Cartright provided an update on park improvement projects. Jim discussed the Community Center remodel for the bathrooms, that will include new tile flooring, countertops, sinks, and faucets. The guttering at the Community Center has been replaced to help with drainage and roof concerns. This replaced the original gutters on the building. Pool pumps are also being worked on and rebuilt, with a focus on the play feature for this year. The pool will additionally receive a new coat of black and blue paint. The pump track at Stockstill is scheduled to be installed this quarter. Campground hydrants were replaced, with some leaking last week due to the colder weather. Attention is being paid to the Campground entrance sign and flower bed by the office. Jim explained the weather challenges of constant freezing and thawing has provided difficulty in tree trimming and finishing the playground at Nygard.

4. UPDATE ON THE CAMPGROUND EXPANSION PROJECT.

Cindy provided an update on the current campground expansion project. She complimented the work of Public Works, Utilities, and the Parks department of the way put in. 31 concrete pads and exposed aggregate patios have been poured, totaling over 800 yards of concrete. Jim talked about the patios and the process for creating the patios. Each site will be 60'x16' with 18' between each pad, private patios with firepits and picnic tables. Fiber is being installed currently, and the dock is being reset. Cindy explained to the board that Jim has been serving as the general contractor for the project. Jim mentioned the lakefront is being cleaned up, and the campground is 99% complete with final touchup work ongoing. Cindy highlighted the effort to allow access to the lake from the campground. The new loyalty program that is replacing Good Sams has been launched to encourage return visitation. Cindy reminded the board that the ribbon cutting celebration is scheduled for February 28th and invited the board to attend.

5. TRAIL UPDATE.

Cindy provided an update on the Trails Request for Proposal that has been published for design of mountain biking and multi-purpose trails on the 168-acre tract of land behind the RecPlex. Cindy added this project further supports the need for a trails position. Cindy mentioned that the trails position will be similar to how the Tournament Director position has helped the department, and a trails position will be able to focus on trails and their connection within the City.

6. UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY ASSET REPLACEMENT PLAN.

Josh Aubin provided an update on the Community Asset Replacement Plan. A community meeting was

held two weeks ago, led by American Ramp Company. This community meeting brought together about 25 people to share their thoughts on revitalizing the skatepark at Stockstill. Josh mentioned that American Ramp Company will be providing the department results of a survey to better guide improvement plans for the skatepark. Pool slide repairs and playgrounds at the RecPlex and Eiserman are planned for improvements this year.

7. PROGRAM AND SPECIAL EVENT UPDATE.

Cindy mentioned that Breakfast with Santa and Adopt-A-Senior are both scheduled in December.

REPORTS

Scott McCaulley reminded everyone that there is not a Park Board meeting in December.

Donald DeHart provided an update from the Branson Hollister Community Center Board. Lisa and Tracy will be on the radio tomorrow morning. Donald commented on the restrooms and expressed gratitude for their improvements. Donald mentioned a grant opportunity that the board received for a walking trail.

ADJOURN

Scott Weust Bluto moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:15pm, seconded by Michael Young. Voting aye: Sullinger, Howden, Wuest, Young, DeHart, Bluto, Nays: none. Motion Carried.