

Clayton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
Monday, March 4, 2024

Commission Members Present: Ben Beinfeld, Ira Berkowitz, Karen Berry Elbert, Matt Durham, Daniel Henke-Cilenti, Adam Weygandt, Gary Pierson, Eric Schneider

Commission Members Absent: Susan Buse, Jim Craig

Staff Present: Valerie Egel, Lori Rice, Doris Patzius, Toni Siering, Justin Whipple

Meeting called to Order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the February meeting was approved as written.

Addresses from the Audience:

No comments from the audience.

FY25 Parks & Recreation Capital Projects:

Toni Siering, Director of Parks and Recreation reviewed the Parks and Recreation Capital Projects. Projects currently in progress include the Livable Community Master Plan and enhancements to the restrooms at Oak Knoll Park, and the North and South shelters at Shaw Park. The restroom enhancements at Shaw Park are expected to be completed by the end of March. Parts for the Splash Pad upgrades at Treetop Playground in Shaw Park are expected to be in by the third week of March. Construction has begun on Remembrance Park. An unmarked line was discovered that may be an ATT fiber line that contractors will work around.

Ms. Siering reviewed other Capital Projects for FY24, which includes a roof replacement at #1 Oak Knoll Park/Childcare Center and foundation repairs around the childcare center playground. Eric Schneider, Board of Commissions Chair recommended a review of a bid alternate on materials for the roofing project at the next Board of Commissions meeting. A contract is expected to be submitted to the Board of Alderman in April for those projects. Shaw Park Aquatic Center HVAC replacements are needed, the Shaw Park Tennis Center lighting upgrades are funded for FY24, and lighting upgrades throughout Shaw Park are funded for FY24-FY25. A proposal for a lighting study is in review currently for the Shaw Park lighting and will be submitted to the Board of Alderman for approval. Oak Knoll lighting will be included in the lighting study for FY25-FY26. Shaw Park ball fields 1 and 2 upgrades are funded for FY24-FY25 and should be complete by next spring.

Recommended projects for FY25-26 include lighting upgrades at Oak Knoll Park and the first-floor entry, locker rooms, and lobby flooring at the Shaw Park Aquatic Center (SPAC). FY27 recommendations include upgrades at Shaw Park Fields 3 and 4. A Municipal Park Grant could be considered for those projects.

Unfunded projects include the Hanley House outdoor building repairs, fire suppressions system, and interior restoration. Donor funding is needed for the fire restoration system and interior restoration. A smaller capital project for outdoor facility repairs at Hanley House is being considered. Unfunded shade structures are being considered at Shaw Park Ball Fields 3 and 4 and at Anderson Dog Park that may be eligible for park grants. The windows at #1 Oak Knoll will need to be replaced within the next five years.

Ben Beinfeld, Board of Commissions member, recommended that outdoor basketball courts be included in the Parks & Recreation Master Plan. The Board of Commission members reviewed the unfunded items provided by

Ms. Siering with an emphasis on cleaning the pool.

Lori Rice, Recreation Superintendent, reviewed lifeguard staffing. At this time last year, MPM had 33 staff hired for SPAC and currently have 40. The scholarship program for lifeguard certification is under review with Clayton Community Foundation (CCF) and Midwest Pool Management (MPM) to provide more affordability recruitment options. The new full-time Aquatic Supervisor for the City of Clayton begins next week and the new full-time MPM manager begins this week. Promotional offers are in place to encourage early registration for season pass renewal.

Director's Report:

Toni Siering stated that the Parks and Recreation Board of Commission are invited to attend a Livable Community public workshop on March 28th from 5 pm – 8 pm. Commission members were also invited via email by Matt Malick, Director of Public Works, to attend a Livable Community joint meeting earlier the same day with the Board of Alderman and the Citizens Advisory Taskforce.

Ms. Siering stated that a correction has been made pertaining to program participation received from Bobbi Nance, Recreation Results consultant. Participation for residents was 69% for residents rather than 80% for nonresidents which was previously reported to by Recreation Results.

On March 6th, there will be a planned electrical outage at Shaw Park to replace a transformer and should last up to 24 hours.

An update on the Livable Community comprehensive plan and SPAC pool will be presented at the next board meeting.

Old Business / New Business: No old business / New business.

The next PRC meeting will be an in-person meeting on April 1, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted By: Doris Patzius