

**Clayton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting**  
**Monday, May 6, 2024**

**Commission Members Present:** Ben Beinfeld, Susan Buse, Matt Durham, Daniel Henke-Cilenti, Adam Weygandt, Gary Pierson, Eric Schneider

**Commission Members Absent:** Karen Berry Elbert, Jim Craig

**Staff Present:** Valerie Egel, Doris Patzius, Toni Siering

Meeting called to Order at 7:00 pm.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes from the March meeting was approved as written.

**Addresses from the Audience:**

No comments from the audience.

**Parks & Recreation Capital Management Plan Update:**

Toni Siering, Director of Parks and Recreation provided a draft update on the Parks and Recreation Capital Plan. The shelter enhancement projects, which included updates to the North and South shelters, as well as the comfort station at Oak Knoll Park, have been completed. The North and South shelters received a fresh coat of paint both inside and out, along with a new roof. Additionally, all fixtures and plumbing in the shelters, as well as the Oak Knoll Park comfort station, were replaced. The updated facilities also feature new electronic door locks that can be locked and unlocked electronically.

The Board of Aldermen approved the replacement of the roof at #1 Oak Knoll Park with slate tiles and the work is scheduled to commence in late 2024. There was no response to the first or second Request for Bids for the Foundation and Waterproofing work at #1 Oak Knoll Park, so a second proposal with a different scope of work was issued. Currently, the solicitation for bids for the revised scope of work is underway.

The Livable Community Master Plan is nearing the end and a draft report from Agency Landscape + Planning with draft goals is expected shortly. The four draft goals include:

1. Leverage public space as a platform for gathering and connection.
2. Make it easy for people of all ages and abilities to walk or ride to their destination.
3. Collaborate to advance Clayton's goals of equity and sustainability and meet community needs now and in the future.
4. Strategically embrace our role as a recreation hub for both the community and the region.

The Remembrance Park project has been delayed due to an unexpected issue with an AT&T line that was not previously marked. A solution has been determined to encase the lines in the seat wall, which is a more cost-effective and efficient approach. The cost for the additional excavation will be determined soon so that the project can continue to move forward.

The Shaw Park fields #1 and #2 are in the early stages of planning, and the work is expected to start in the fall of 2024. The project is anticipated to be completed by the 2025 spring sports season.

The Board of Alderman approved a lighting study for Shaw Park Tennis Center, Oak Knoll Park, and Shaw Park. Ms. Siering stated that the application and granting of a municipal grant would help offset the cost of the study by \$10,000. The lighting study is set to begin shortly, and this is expected to be a multi-year project.

The Shaw Park Treetop Playground splashpad equipment has been received and should be installed the week after Memorial Day. Parks staff are currently working to ensure that the surface is painted with a non-slip product and will follow that with the installation of a new control system and the new water features.

There was no response received to the two bid requests issued for the replacement of HVAC units at the Shaw Park Aquatic Center. Ms. Siering stated that the necessary steps have been taken to move forward with the process by soliciting separate bids for individual units that service different areas, prioritizing the replacement in order of need.

Eric Schneider, Parks and Recreation Commission Chair, sought the input of the board members on whether they prefer July 1st or July 7th for the upcoming meeting. All members agreed to hold the meeting on July 1st.

**Director's Report:**

Toni Siering reported that the Open Streets event that took place on May 5th had a moderate turnout, with some attendees participating in the fitness classes that were held on the streets. The event showcased some of the local fitness instructors and their specialties, which was well-received by the participants. Participants were also encouraged to take part in the bike courses throughout Shaw Park and free bike helmet fitting was available for children. Memberships for both Shaw Park Tennis Center, Shaw Park Aquatic Center and the Center of Clayton were sold during the Open Streets event as well.

The Shaw Park Aquatic Center is set to open on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Currently, recaulking of the expansion joints on the pool deck and in the pool is nearly complete. MPM currently has about 100 staff on board, which is slightly lower than the ideal target of 125 for Clayton. However, the staff is ready for the opening, with a new manager in place. Sunshades have been put up around the pool, outdoor furniture is out on the pool deck, and concessions are beginning their preparation for the season. Training is also underway to ensure that all safety priorities are met.

The Picnic in the Park event is scheduled for June 2nd from 4 pm to 8 pm. The event features live music by Hudson and the Hoodoo Cats, food trucks, inflatables and a bubble bus.

Pavilion and picnic pad rentals are filling up for the summer season.

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

The next PRC meeting will be via Zoom on June 3, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted By: Doris Patzius