

Clayton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
Monday, January 10, 2022
Zoom Webinar

Members Present: Ben Beinfeld, Susan Buse, Jim Craig, Matt Durham, Daniel Henke- Cilenti, Bridget McAndrew, Gary Pierson, & Eric Schneider.

Absent: Karen Berry Elbert & Missy McCormick

Also, Present: Lori Rice, Toni Siering & Denise Ucinski

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the December Commission meeting were approved as written.

Addresses from the Audience:

There were no addresses from the audience.

The Center of Clayton Report

Ms. Toni Siering presented The Center of Clayton report to the Commission. The presentation included the following information: The Center of Clayton's mission, CRSWC governing body explanation, shared services between the Clayton School District and The Center, capital renovations details, Center of Clayton membership statistics, programming, and expansion of services since the pandemic.

Ms. Siering stated that Ms. Lori Rice and Ms. Molly Troy did an excellent job with the fitness center renovation. There is still some social distancing of cardio equipment. Membership numbers significantly decreased at the beginning of the pandemic. We are seeing gradual improvements. Some members are in favor of the mask mandate and some that are not stop their memberships. Center membership by residency is 48%, 23% are corporate and 29% are non-residents. Corporate membership has really dropped off because many employees continue to work from home.

Expansion of services began in 2021 with offerings such as basketball clinics, the Youth Activity Center opening one day a week, limited use of the Kid Center, adding recreation swim hours and resuming meeting room rentals. There were robust camp offerings in 2021 and the intention is to have similar camps this year. Ms. Rice explained the types of camps that were held and noted that staff is working on enhancing summer programming. Ms. Siering announced that the city has a new marketing team.

Director's Report:

Ms. Siering asked Mr. Schneider to provide the Commission with an update on the master plan. Mr. Schneider stated that the selection for the Livable Communities Master Plan is down to two firms, one is local, and one is national. The selection committee is in the process of preparing interview questions. Once the recommendations are ready the committee will present them to the Commission and the Board of Alderman for review.

Ms. Siering reported that conversations have begun with the contractor who is working on relocation of utilities at the ice rink. Ameren is working on finding out when the transformer will arrive. No work is scheduled to begin until at least March. Dredging of the pond at Oak Knoll Park is moving along. Most of the other work at Oak Knoll will take place in the spring. ARB did approve the plans for the park on Maryland Avenue. SWT will send out a bid for the project at the end of January. MSD is currently finishing up at the dog park. They are about a week behind. The goal is to open the dog park in March.

Old Business / New Business:

Mr. David Gipson stated that all name suggestions from city committees will be submitted in time for discussion at the next Commission meeting. More information to come about the Tennis RFP, the status of the master plan and other park projects.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted By: Denise Ucinski