

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Minutes of the meeting of July 16, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christy Watt (Chairperson)
Bill Stobart
Pat Duncan
Bill Dickey

GUESTS PRESENT:

Jeff Wilbert, Interim Director of Parks and Recreation
Tammy Edge, Operations Manager

Pittsburg Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met on Thursday, July 16, 2009 at 4:00 pm in Lincoln Center. Christy Watt called the meeting to order with 4 members present. The June 18th minutes were approved by everyone.

Old Business

Fourth of July

Jeff told the board that he thought everything went pretty smooth except for the rain that hit during the early evening that cancelled some entertainment at the band dome. The rain did not last long so the fireworks were able to be fired off as planned. Tammy mentioned that everything seemed to go well even during the morning rain showers. The 5K went as planned and was well attended by 113 runners. The fishing derby went well also with everyone in their rain gear and having a good time. Christy said that a person had told her that one of the craft vendors was selling belt buckles that were not appropriate. Tammy said that she would mention this to Kim and we would make sure and check out the vendors merchandise a little closer next year.

23rd Street Bike Park

Jeff asked the board if they would like to attend a walk through of the 23rd Street Bike Park on Monday, July 27th. He said that on Tuesday, July 28th, the park will be on the Commission Agenda for approval for opening it to the public. Other phases of the park are already being discussed such as building a shelter. Jeff is going to talk to Jim Otter, of PSU, about having the construction class build the shelter as one of their projects. The City would supply the material and the PSU class would construct the shelter.

Lakeside Park

Jeff said that the relocation of some of the ducks and geese was a success. The office received a lot of calls wanting to know where the ducks were relocated and staff would tell them that Kansas Wildlife found them new homes far enough away that they would not fly back to Lakeside. There were some good and bad reviews from the public on this matter but in the long run the park will be a better and cleaner place for citizens to go and enjoy.

Jock's Nitch Tournament

The tournament went well. Park staff drags and marks the fields before the first games of the day and then maintains trash throughout the rest of the day and evening. If the fields need to be addressed during the day there is staff on hand to take care of them. The Parks Department received \$2145.00 for the use and maintenance of the fields for the 2 ½ day tournament.

Burn Site

The citizens of Pittsburg are glad to have the burn site open once a month so they have a place to dispose of their limbs and branches. The burn site is open to the public on the second Saturday of each month from 8am – Noon. There were 78 loads taken to the site in the month of July.

Vote on meeting dates

Jeff asked for input on how often the board members thought that they should meet. The Parks & Recreation Department has its busy time of the year with lots of information and ideas to be discussed and then there are the slow months when the department just catches up with paperwork and planning for the next year. He said that the department always wants input on ideas, comments from citizens, and new programs from the board, but also knows that the board members have that busy time of the year when they are not able to attend a meeting. The board agreed and voted on meeting every other month unless something came up and then a special meeting could be called.

New Business

Adopt a Park (Lakeside)

Jeff told the board that he had a group come to him with an idea of adopting Lakeside Park. The owners of Sammie's Cab, who live in the Lakeside area, want to organize a group of citizens and neighbors to help clean and maintain Lakeside Park. They have set up a meeting to discuss this with the public to see what ideas could be presented. Jeff did say that signs would be posted in the park to keep the public from feeding the ducks. He said that the bread was not much of a problem but some citizens were feeding them grain. He also said that the duck house would not be removed but would be boarded up to discourage the ducks from staying. Jeff said that he would have more information on this project at the next board meeting.

Bill Stobart asked if there was anymore progress on the proposed Everybody Plays Playground. Jeff said that they still have their monthly meetings and are doing things to raise money for the project. They are now selling t-shirts and they are discussing having a golf tournament in 2010. They have also applied for grants.

With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm and the next meeting will be scheduled for September 10, 2009 at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Edge