

CITY OF NEW CASTLE PARK BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patty Broyles, Dave Nantz, Sandy Scott, and John Henderson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor York, Park Superintendent Mike Bergum, and Mayor's Assistant Kendra Kennedy

Mayor York opened this meeting at 5:30pm.

Mayor York asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the former meeting. Patty made a motion to accept the minutes from the former meeting. Second by Dave. Motion carried (4-0).

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Patty went over the financial reports for the pool and concession stand for the 2021 season. The report detailed adult and child attendance numbers along with chair rental revenue. A quick summary of the report highlighted the large number of individuals who attended the pool during the season. There was a brief discussion about the admission prices and the chair rental procedure. Both still fit into the philosophy of providing a low-cost leisure opportunity for the citizens of Henry County.

Mike Bergum noted that although the renovations on the pool during the offseason provided for a new look and a safe facility, there was still work to be done behind the scenes in the mechanical room. The remaining money from the RDC, \$54,000, will be use to complete the recommend changes and upgrades needed in the pump room. Mike and Mayor Greg York feel confident that these final upgrades will provide a lasting future for the pool.

Patty noted that the Park Bond was still in process and proceeding according to the timeline. Mike mentioned that the sale of the bond should be completed by the end of the month, September. Once the sale is confirmed projects will begin. Prior to the finalization of the bond process, Mike is compiling projects that can be completed during fall in order to be proactive for the opening of the parks in the spring. One of the projects that was presented was paving areas in Baker Park and Osborne Park. Mike had put together specs for the respective projects and sent them to three local paving companies. Two companies declined the opportunity to bid on the project because the projects would not fit in to their timeline of completion this calendar year. The bid was awarded to AB Sealcoating as presented. Dog Parking Lot - \$13,200. Middle of Park Lot - \$9,500. Osborne Park resurface - \$28,700. The motion to accept the bids was made by Dave Nance and seconded by Patty Broyles. The motion passed (3-0), John Henderson abstained.

It was noted that there may need to be additional Board meetings, via Zoom, to award additional bids. If necessary, the meetings will be advertised 5 days in advance according to the statute.

The Henry County Food and Beverage Grant was brought to the attention of the Board. Mike had previously sent the Board the application for review. It was explained to the Board that the Parks and Recreation Department would like to apply for the grant in conjunction with the newly formed New Castle Little League Softball Program. The grant/project will focus on the revitalization of the Osborne Park Softball Diamonds. The charge of the grant; the new beginning of the Little League Softball program and the Master Plan of the Parks and Recreation Department makes for a perfect fit to submit an application for the Food and Beverage Grant. Mike will be working with the Parks and Recreation Board along with the Softball Little League Board to complete the application prior to the October 29th deadline. Patty made a motion to submit the application with John seconding. Motion passed (4-0).

Patty Broyles recognized and thanked several individuals and groups for their efforts over the past month. Randy Cox and the Foursquare Church for their "Faith in Action" day in Baker Park. The church helped mulch areas in the park, painted the gazebo, picked up sticks and painted curbs. A special thanks to Lynn Perdue for his efforts on Trojan Lane and the mums provide for the southwest corner of Baker Park. Richard Bouslog was thanked for his efforts in Trojan Woods which provided for a cleanup along the edge of the woods. Mr. Bouslog was joined by a number of other dedicated individuals during the project. Bruce Roberts was recognized for his continued efforts on Monday nights. Bruce holds a weekly bluegrass jam session in Baker Park that draws nearly 100 people each session.

Mike mentioned a Park Partnership that has been developed with the Property Management Class through the New Castle Career Center. Mr. Dave Allen is the faculty member in charge of the class. The class has eagerly agreed to tackle several projects throughout the school year in Baker and Osborne Park. Some of the projects include: refurbishing Shelter #1 in Baker Park, repair and paint shelters, paint curbs, trim branches and shrubs, install new sign at North Main St. Park, clean up trail in Osborne Park, help load cut trees and debris, install drainage tile at new playground area, mulch playgrounds.

MAYOR'S REPORT

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

None

CITIZEN CONCERNS

Scott Frost noted that the Bicentennial for New Castle Henry County will be next year and there will be a Knock Out Event at the Fieldhouse on June 25, 2022. He came before the board to invite everyone to a meeting on Wednesday, September 22nd at 5:30pm at the Basketball Hall of Fame to discuss this event further.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:15PM, NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 1, 2021.