

## CITY OF NEW CASTLE PARK BOARD MINUTES

AUGUST 7, 2023

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

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. Dave made a motion to approve June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Second by Todd. Motion passed unanimously.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Fun Park - Assessment

##### Four-month process

- Conversations with the company who built the playground, Leathers
- One day onsite visit by leathers to the playground
- Written assessment of the condition of the facility – 55-page report
- Zoom meeting to follow up on the assessment

Reality – there is a life expectancy for the playground which we are nearing or close to exceeding. Currently the playground is 24 years old. The original material used in building the playground was pressure treated wood posts and pressure treated framing treated with CCA which is no longer allowed on playgrounds. Can not get materials like this now.

Pros/Positives – we are being proactive in the approach of remodeling, fixing and planning for the future. The new playground in Baker Park will help relieve some pressure from the FUN Park

Challenges – we have to understand the lifespan of the facility and brace for the realism of three to five years down the road.

Renovations - Recommendations: **minor renovations** aimed at lasting 3-5 years. **Major renovations** hoping to last 10+ years. The cost for the two types of renovations is considerably different; minor \$50,000/major \$150,000. The spreadsheet that I have put together outlines what we plan to do within our department to address the immediate needs of the facility. It also includes the material costs for necessary items.

Renovations vs. New Construction - Renovations will buy the playground possibly 10 more years. New construction includes no wood materials and would last at least 30 years with minimal maintenance.

Steps Forward - there is a strong connection within the community for this playground and the Parks Department would like to foster that relationship moving forward. Items to consider as we move forward:

- Calender - realize the life span of the playground and decide if and when to stop putting time, effort and resources in to the current facility.
- Future playground – new construction of any facility takes 9 to 12 months of preparation, planning, funding and building. Actual demo and construction would take only about two weeks. We are in a great spot to begin planning a new facility.
- The Parks Department along with the Parks Board will continue the future planning of this topic.

\*\* Dave made a motion to move forward on a proactive approach on minor renovations and look to raise funds for the future of this playground. Second by John. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Pool Summary**

- Great year
- Post summer plans - work in the Pump Room, rebuild main pool pump, continue to revamp the equipment to work more efficiently and cost effective. Replace umbrellas and necessary rescue equipment.
- Lifeguard classes are on the calendar for next year
- Possible raises

### **Skate Park**

- Poynter Brothers event - great ambassadors
- Lights – lines have been trenched
- Restroom - waiting on the contractor to replace the restroom roof and install new toilet fixtures
- Landscape - top soil is being spread now and will be seeded this fall
- Entrance – curb poured soon, new asphalt put down and parking/walking area will be restriped

### **Pickle Ball**

- The courts have been resealed
- New nets have been put up
- Committee has met.
- Goals: establish a plan for pickle ball within the community. Identify immediate, short-term and long-term ideas
- Responsibilities of the committee- voice of the plan
- Reviewed what is necessary to have for a new facility
- Listened to a presentation from CPP Sports about new construction
- Sandy noted that signage needs to be placed to help let patrons know where it is located

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor York noted that all the new additions at the parks are exciting and not only for kids but adults, as well. We are creating parks that are family friendly and for everyone!

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

See New Business Report

**CITIZEN CONCERNS**

Scott Frost thanked the board and the City for the NC23 event at Baker Park. The event was a huge hit with the community and thanked everyone for their efforts.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:15PM, NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 5, 2023.