

CITY OF NEW CASTLE PARK BOARD MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patty Broyles, Dave Nantz, Todd Myers, 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. Patty noted to postpone November and December minutes approval to February meeting.

Mayor York also noted it was time to make nominations for President and Vice President of Board. Dave made a motion to keep the nominations the same from 2022 year, Patty as President and Dave as Vice President. Patty seconded. Motion passed (4-0)

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of fifth member to the Parks and Recreation Board -- Todd Myers.

It was recommended that there be an additional appointment to the Parks and Recreation Board. This new member would provide for an odd number on the board to ensure voting rights and the ability to have a quorum. Another set of eyes and an additional voice will benefit the Board.

Osborne Park Update:

We will be meeting with a member of K & K Fencing in the next couple of weeks to get started on the fencing plan. The hope is that the installation of the fence will begin during the end of January. Recently the dugouts and concrete floors were removed from the diamonds. All of the infields have been resurfaced and completed.

Skate Park Update:

Updates will be provided by Hunger Inc. during the next month. The Parks and Rec Department along with other city departments will begin the ground work at the Skate Park. Hunger is hoping to begin work on the expansion in the spring.

Baker Park New Playground

The new playground units have been ordered. The site work leading up to the installation will be done by the Parks and Recreation department along with local businesses. The project

competition date will be around May 1st. The design will include pathways from the parking lot, a picnic table area, the new playground equipment, and a rubber playing surface. A surface upgrade will also be made to the existing playground in that area.

\$50,000 Budget

This years \$50,000 line item within the budget will primarily go for needed items in each of the capital projects that are underway. Small in-house items that may not have been accounted for in the bond proposal and upgrades to projects.

Little League and Babe Ruth (New Castle/Henry Co. Youth Baseball League Inc.)

Similar to the Osborne Park Softball Diamond lease agreement, new leases are underway for the Little League diamond and the diamond formally know as the Babe Ruth Diamond. Language, dates and partnerships will be updated and clarified along with clearer verbiage for all parties involved.

Baker Park Swimming Pool Information

Lifeguard certification classes are in the process of being scheduled. Pool application dates will be held in January, February and March for those interested in working at the pool this summer. The pool schedule has been set. Pool party reservations are being taken at this time for Mondays and Thursdays during the summer season.

MAYOR'S REPORT

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Winter walking is in full swing at the Armory and since the New Year, more patrons are taking advantage. The Health Department is also coming the first of every month to provide free covid screenings and other health awareness.

The Parks and Recreation Department is also looking into purchasing new picnic tables and refurbishing what we currently have in stock. We are also taking bottle caps and hope to make a run to the facility that turns them into the plastic benches, soon.

CITIZEN CONCERNS

Scott Frost noted that he has heard a lot of positive feedback regarding the new Disc Golf located at Baker Park. Kudos to the Parks and Recreation for their efforts in making this a reality.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:20PM, NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 6, 2023.