

Kearney Park Board Minutes--Tuesday October 16, 2018 meeting

On Tuesday October 16, 2018, the Kearney Park Board met for its monthly meeting. Jeff Couchman called the meeting to order. All members were present. Staff members present were Ryan Marcotte and Eric Marshall. Park board minutes from the August 21st, 2018 meeting were presented, with Randy making a motion to approve the minutes, and Julie seconding the motion...the motion was approved unanimously.

Lions Park Master Plan—Steve Casey of 2509 SW Golden Eagle Road, Lee's Summit, MO, and SC Planning and Design, presented a draft Lions Park Master plan for the board to review. Staff and the board, as well as community members, have met with Mr. Casey several times throughout the year to review and offer input on the plan design. The plan focuses chiefly on accessibility and connectivity, with paved trails leading throughout the park. A splashpad is set to become the main attraction of the park, with the rest of the park receiving new shelters, new playground equipment, new restrooms, a trail around the park, and a general overall facelift. Randy Pogue made a motion to approve the draft master plan, with Connie Crawford seconding the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. From the park board, the plan will next go to the Board of Aldermen for preview, then through to the Planning and Zoning Commission for an amendment to the comprehensive master plan, then back to the Board of Aldermen for final approval.

Old Business—Staff mentioned that competitive girls softball and adult softball sessions were just wrapping up, and that they have been a big success once again. We had a few rainout dates, but they have been made up. We look forward to next season.

Staff also mentioned that Jim Leuschke's theatre production group was in the processing of reestablishing it's non profit status, and would proceed to have their production at the amphitheater in the last week of June.

The pickleball league's final night of games was that night, and overall it had been a huge success. Staff mentioned that they were looking into the possibility of an indoor league somewhere in town during the winter months.

Ryan mentioned that the final night of girls volleyball was that night, and that the league had been a success, but was down a few girls from last year. Flag football was in session, and that one date had been rained out, thus moving the Turkey Bowl to November 10th.

New Business Staff informed the board that Youth Basketball signups were now live, and that we were on track to have roughly the same number of children playing as the 2017 season.

Staff also told the board that our Oktoberfest event was plagued with rain throughout the day, hampering attendance. Staff made the decision to waive the entry fee to help attract people to the event, and that the crowd was smaller than the year before, due to the rain.

Eric recapped the annual Kids Fest event, and it was another rousing success. The rides and inflatables were popular with the children, and all of the service organizations pitched in once again on the event. The Optimists gave away over 500 hotdogs, the Rotary Club provided free drinks for the attendees, and several other groups contributed to the success of the event.

Eric also informed the board that the contract mowing bid opening was scheduled for Thursday, October 18th at 2:00 pm.

Amphitheater -- Ryan informed the board of the new direction for the amphitheater, starting in 2019. Staff wants to focus on emerging national acts. This is what made the venue popular in the first place. He said that the marquee show for the summer will be a local country showcase, featuring several of the best country musicians in the area.

STAFF COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business on the agenda, a motion was made by Connie Crawford, and seconded by Julie Jones to adjourn.

Approved: _____
Jeff Couchman Chairperson

Attest: _____
Julie Jones Secretary