

Kearney Park Board Minutes—Tuesday July 18th, 2023 meeting

On Tuesday, July 18th, 2023 the Kearney Park Board met for its monthly meeting in-person. Connie Crawford called the meeting to order. Members present were Connie Crawford, Nick DiBenedetto, Dan Holt, Lisa Cheesebrough, Jon Costa, Ali Jorn and Kristi Mayo. Staff members present was Eric Marshall and Ryan Marcotte. Eric Marshall informed the board that Julie Jones had submitted a letter of resignation from the park board effective Tuesday, July 18th, and that a new board secretary would need to be nominated and voted in. Dan Holt nominated Ali Jorn to be the new board secretary, with Lisa Cheesebrough seconding. The vote passed unanimously.

Lisa Cheesebrough moved to amend the agenda to allow Ali Jorn to make a public request. Dan Holt seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

Park board minutes from the June 22nd, 2023 meeting were presented, with Dan Holt, making a motion to approve the minutes, and Nick DiBenedetto seconding the motion...the motion was approved 8-0.

Public Requests & Petitions: Rich Kolb PO Box 362 – Kearney, MO returned to the board to provide an update on the Fallen Warriors memorial Jesse James Park. He provided the board with renderings of the memorial and said that they were quoted \$17,000 for the granite stone memorial. He also said that he expected the fundraising to be completed soon. He stated that his goal was to have the memorial open by Memorial Day, 2024. A motion was made to approve the design and location of the memorial, and to send to the Board of Alderman for final approval by Dan Holt and seconded by Lisa Cheesebrough. The motion carried unanimously.

Lauren Ozburn, Waters Edge Aquatics: Lauren Ozburn of Waters Edge Aquatics presented the board with the results of the first public aquatic center survey (available at: Kearneymo.us) and presented options for an indoor/outdoor aquatic center, as well as an indoor pool with additional indoor recreation opportunities – based on the results from public survey one. These two options feature key on the second public survey; the results of which will lead to the final plan to be

presented to the board of aldermen in December for approval, and ultimately be put on the April 2024 ballot for vote by the taxpayers.

Ali Jorn, Ammon Freestone Pickleball Fundraiser: With Ali Jorn having to leave the meeting early, Eric Marshall asked the board for permission to rent 8 courts of the Pickleball Complex to Ali Jorn for a charity pickleball tournament for four hours on Saturday September 23rd. A motion to approve the tournament was made by Lisa Cheeseborough and seconded by Dan Holt. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business, Nature Trail: Eric informed the board that Shannon Bond has partnered with the Kearney Chamber of Commerce to use their 501c3 as a nonprofit foundation to solicit donations and fund the maintenance and upkeep of the nature trail along fishing creek. Eric mentioned he expects the park department to be able to furnish lumber for bridges and general maintenance.

July 3rd Fireworks: Eric Marshall provided the board with a wrap-up of the July 3rd celebration event and said that the park had more people than in the past several years, likely due to great weather. The event went off without any major incidents, and the parks department looks forward to presenting the event next year.

New Business: Rec Sports: Ryan Marcotte reported that Fall Sport signups were live with Flag Football, Volleyball, Soccer, Youth Pickleball Camp, Adult Pickleball Leagues and the first Kearney Parks & Rec Pickleball tournament being held the weekend of the Jesse James Festival all in the works.

Board Comments-

Dan Holt commented that traffic was heavier than usual at July 3rd, and that it took longer than normal to exit the park after the fireworks show.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business on the agenda, a motion was made by Dan Holt and seconded by Nick DiBenedetto to adjourn to Tuesday, August 15th at 6:30 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved: _____ **Connie Crawford Chairperson**

Ali Jorn _____ **Secretary**

