

**March 11th, 2025**

**Parks Commission in Attendance:** Brad, JoAnn, Sarah and Chris

**Staff in Attendance:** Jonn and Dustin

Call to order: 6:00pm

February minutes passed unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

None

**Correspondence and Communication:**

Forest Board Notes- JoAnn shared that the Forest Board is reviewing the public comments received. Questions were asked by the public about the procedure and process of this review. She also shared that Jamie is working on trail inspections, trying to get ahead of the maintenance.

Jonn shared about the Parks Foundation meeting. The PSE lease has been sent out and further negotiations are anticipated.

Jonn also noted that Laurie Gere will be attending the next Parks Board meeting to speak about the future of a community center.

**Cemetery Policy Update:**

Staff have been working on updating the policies and moving some things to code which will make them enforceable. There will be no fee changes at this time. The major change will be to allow for green burials in the cemetery. These burials will still require a bottomless liner to help the integrity of the grave but allow the decedent to touch the earth.

**ACFL Plan Update:**

Public comments on the first draft of the Plan were taken until March 5<sup>th</sup>. The Board is now reviewing them and will make recommendations to staff on Plan changes. The Plan will then go to Council where further public comments can be made. The process is ahead of schedule at this time. In the future, the Planning Department may want to move the Plan to the City Comprehensive Plan.

**Department Reports:**

Dustin shared that prices for programs and classes will be increasing for the first time in six years. There will still be a family maximum and scholarships available. Staff tried not to increase costs each year, but this has been a longer stretch due to Covid. Discussion was had about each year increases instead of one larger increase. He also reported that the ATown will be coming out soon with all of the spring and summer programs. Badminton is back and volleyball will take place March-May. Staff is also offering a biology class with Eli.

Jonn reported that the Senior Activity Center is finishing their survey about the needs of the community and will share with Council in April or May.

Jonn gave an update on the City Comprehensive Plan. He is giving a presentation to Council next week on upcoming projects and then will go to the Planning Commission in May. Staff is working on a survey to gather public comments on what the community would like to see at the parks. Staff does not anticipate many changes to the current plan.

Staff met with Andy from the school district maintenance team and a pickleball court consultant. Jonn is working on a MOU with the district to allow for some upgrades to the tennis court and pickleball lines to be laid down. The hope is to allow use of the courts outside of school hours. Staff hopes to have the plans for the West end park by month end and then have another neighborhood meeting.

**Other Business:**

Brad asked about the trail from 41<sup>st</sup> to Heart Lake and where this was at in the process. Jonn shared that it was stopped due to easements so staff has proposed a smaller trail.

Adjourned at 6:35pm

Respectfully submitted by Darby Jordan