



Kent Park and Recreation
November 22, 2021
5:30 at the Old Jail

Members Present:

Steve Mitchell
Jake Ferlito
Neil Dukes
Debbie Smeiles

Staff Present:

Angela Manley
Sam Tuttle
Megan Johns
Karen Magilavy

Council Liason

Gwen Rosenberg

Steve called the meeting to order at 5:30. Roll was called and is listed above. Kathleen is out of town. Please review the September minutes. The October meeting was cancelled due to tornado warnings. **Neil made a motion to accept the September minutes, Jake seconded and roll was called all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

Personal Appearances None

Correspondence None

Staff Reports

Revenue & Expenditures September and October reports are included. We are still waiting on parts of the cheerleader's uniforms and paying as they come in. The bill from Scott paving was for the Rec parking lot. It is under capital improvements and the project came in under budget.

Park Report 4 part timers have left for this season. The trail is open tomorrow except for the stairs. The stairs will remain closed since we are waiting on the railings. We cannot install the railings in the cold. Plus you should not put salt on new concrete. Engineer wanted a large dedication in December, but Angela suggested pairing the event with River Day, then the stairs will be open and we can include the school kids.

Recreation Report

The youth basketball program is working with the Cavs. We will receive Cav's reversible jerseys, a coach's clinics and tickets to a game. The preschool is up to 18 kids. The before and after program has 100 kids and 45 on the waiting list. Megan is still trying to hire staff. Some of her staff is graduating. She needs 2-3 new staff and they need a high school diploma, she has been advertising, Megan also had an administration meeting and covered grants, work force recruitment and covid precautions. As more kids get vaccinated hopefully we can bring programs like kids night out. We would like to get back to precovid numbers, but we need staff.

Director Report

1. We have an intern Kai White a Sport Admin Major working with us this semester, he is working with our tackle football and wrestling program. He is working in the office and fitness center. He graduates in December.
2. The Master Plan by Brandstetter-Carroll will send out a few dates for the steering committee meeting and open house, we are looking at January days that don't conflict with our meeting and council meetings..
3. We were originally not allowed to use Kent City Schools for our programs, but they will now allow only students and coaches. That has been updated to allow parents in the gyms beginning November 29th. We have paid gym use in Tallmadge.
4. We now have 270 enrolled in the Turkey Trot and 70 in the Fun Run. Josh is running the Turkey Trot, this year we are using a chip system. In the past registration was through KPR, now he is taking registration and he would cut us a check. That will make everything more streamline. We will also be taking registrations on Race Day at the Shelterhouse.
5. The 2022 Budget was handed out. It will be going to council for approval in December. It is very similar to this year's budget; fuel will be increased, and child care, hopefully we will have field trips this year. The budget will also include a mower replacement and the debt that is now due to the city. The debt is being partially repaid by payment in kind; the sidewalk snow removal from last winter and future winters will be applied to that balance. At a meeting in Engineering about the part of the trail going from Main St to Stow St. Angela told engineering they had posted a grant that we had not yet received. We cannot count on that grant until we are approved. That is how we got the debt in the first place, we did not get the previous grant because it was only for new trails and this was not a new trail. We don't want to keep building debt, we want to pay off the current balance. She is keeping the Fitness Center budget line to pay any instructors and classes and the lease goes through the end of April.
6. The Agency for the Fitness Center has been trying to get us to rent the entire building. Angela just informed them that we will not be renewing the lease. The lease is up in April and we would auction items that are not repurposed to other P&R programs. We have to list all the items for auction and get them approved by council. Then they would be put up on a government auction site for anyone to bid on. The official closing will be December 31, 2021.
7. We need help for sidewalk snow removal for this winter. No one has applied.
8. Juneteenth festival. Neil has emailed people and groups plus the police chief for a group planning session. We booked Plum Creek and have to have an event or open it up for rent. We are on YouTube saying we would organize something. We need to be fully involved. Angela will attend the meeting too.

At 6:40 Motion made by Neil to go into EXECUTIVE SESSION: In accordance with ORC Section 121.22 Section G, Item (1): "To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion. Or compensation of a public employee or official." Seconded by Steve. Motion was made by Neil to return to the meeting and seconded by Jake. Motion approved, followed by motion to adjourn at 7:40