

Centralia Park Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 18, 2023
Centralia Recreation Center
12:00 PM

Park Board Members Present: Phil Hulen, Dale Davidson, Richard Dickerson, Todd Alden, John Wheeler, Bev Reynolds, and Jessi O'Bannon.

Also Present: Erle Bennett—Park Director, Andrea Owens—Secretary, and Eva Guile.

Meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m. by Interim President, Phil Hulen.

The Minutes from May 16, 2023, were approved by consent. There was no meeting in June 2023 due to lack of quorum.

Eva Guile was introduced to the Park Board as a candidate for the position of Kids Club Director for the 2023-2024 School Year.

Eva Guile left the meeting at 12:16 p.m.

Richard Dickerson made a motion to go into closed session. Bev Reynolds seconded the motion. Phil Hulen asked that the motion be accepted by role call vote. Voting for: Dale Davidson, Richard Dickerson, John Wheeler, Todd Allen, Bev Reynolds, Jessi O'Bannon, and Phil Hulen. Voting Against: None. The session was now closed.

During closed session, Bev Reynolds made a motion with a second from Richard Dickerson to hire Eva Guile as Kids Club Director at a pay rate of \$22.00 an hour. Phil Hulen asked that the motion be adopted by role call vote. Voting for: Dale Davidson, Richard Dickerson, John Wheeler, Todd Allen, Bev Reynolds, Jessi O'Bannon, and Phil Hulen. Voting Against: None.

John Wheeler made a motion with a second from Jessi O'Bannon to hire Jacob Hedrick as Park Maintenance at a pay rate of \$13.45 an hour. Phil Hulen asked that the motion be adopted by role call vote. Voting for: Dale Davidson, Richard Dickerson, John Wheeler, Todd Allen, Bev Reynolds, Jessi O'Bannon, and Phil Hulen. Voting Against: None.

There being no further business, Richard Dickerson asked for the meeting to come out of closed session. Jessi O'Bannon seconded the motion. Phil Hulen asked that the motion be adopted by role call vote. Voting for: Dale Davidson, Richard Dickerson, John Wheeler, Todd Allen, Bev Reynolds, Jessi O'Bannon, and Phil Hulen. Voting Against: None. The session was now open.

Recreation Center

It was reported that the Recreation Center currently has 2,776 members. Last month the membership was 2,748 and last year the membership was 2,536.

The following list of classes are being offered during the summer at the Recreation Center:

- ❖ Senior in Shape taught by Christyne Robertson Mon, Wed, and Fri from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.-9 participants.
- ❖ Senior in Shape taught by Christyne Robertson Monday thru Fridays 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.-35 participants.
- ❖ Low Impact Aerobics taught by Christyne Robertson Monday thru Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.-13 participants.

Discussion was held regarding sending out information regarding Kids Club this fall.

The Park Director reported that the worn upholstery on the Fitness equipment has been repaired by Tiger Upholstery.

The Park Director reported that all 3 of the computers have been upgraded to Windows 10.

The Park Director informed the Board that the Park Maintenance employees have completed painting the gymnasium and will begin painting the lobby and office area.

The Park Director reported that the down spout trench is in need of repair in the parking lot. Signs will be installed in the parking lot stating 5 mph.

The Park Director stated that the High School Basketball Coaches held a 3 day Youth camp at the end of May 2023 and had approximately 140 participants.

The Park Director reported that the two water fountains at the East Annex will to be replaced and the front entry way will be repainted.

A Cornhole League is renting the East Annex on Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for \$6.00 a person.

Park

The Park Director reported that the Youth League finished the season on Friday, July 14, 2023. There were 83 Wiffle Ball players, 84 T-ball players, 40 Softball players, and 100 Baseball players. Discussion held regarding Umpires arriving at the games 30 minutes prior to go over the rules/regulations.

Discussion was held regarding the option of posting signs on the ball field fences explaining why they stay locked and that patrons need to contact the Recreation Center to reserve or rent a field.

The Park Director reported that the Park employees have been watering trees once a week due to the dry conditions.

The Park Director reported that he is looking into signing a contract with the Department of Conservation to possibly manage the ponds and fish population.

The Park Director informed the Board that plans are being made for a Magic Tree for Christmas at the City Recreation Park.

The Park Director reported that there are 12 lights out at the City Recreation Park. The Electric Department is in the process of repairing the lights.

The Park Director informed the Board that Consolidated Electric installed new light poles and a new night light at the East Field area.

A Memorial Bench will be installed at City Square in the memory of Carl C. Dahling once concrete is able to be poured.

The Park Director reported that the 2 new slides will be installed by mid-August 2023.

Pool

The Park Director reported that the Splash pad had a valve replaced and that the Water Department has been assisting with any issues that have arisen this summer.

The pool filter system has had to be cleaned less frequently due to the cooperation of swimmers using less spray-on sunscreen and the addition of an enzyme product to the pool.

It was reported that the Friday night twilight swims have averaged 45 people per night.

The Pool parties were booked daily throughout the entire summer, with 3 parties being held on Saturdays.

It was reported that there were 46 swimmers out for Swim Team, and there were 120 total enrolled in Swim Lessons.

In June 2023, there were 20 participants for evening Aqua Size. In July there are 20 participants in the evening, 8 participants in the morning Aqua Size, and 8 participants in Water Walking.

As of July 13, 2023 the total pool attendance to was 5,465---an increase of approximately 300 from last season.

The pool will close for the season on August 5, 2023. The Pool Manager is offering a Lifeguard Certification Course August 7, 2023, thru August 11, 2023. Contact Brandon Kinhead at 573-682-7851 for more information.

Golf

The Park Director reported that the light house poles at the entry have been repainted.

The Park Director reported that 12 Ash trees need to be removed.

The Park Department stated that the Health Department is requiring the installation of a handwashing sink in the kitchen.

The Park Director informed the Board that last year's gross from January 1, 2022 to July 1, 2023 was \$120,160.09 and this year's gross from January 1, 2023 to July 1, 2023 is \$167, 190.09.

There are currently 163 Golf Membership, up from 125 last year--8 Youth, 30 Students, 16 Junior, 83 Adult, and 26 Family and 72 Cart Storages.

The Park Director reported that there are approximately 24-42 teams playing in the Wednesday night League and approximately 22-24 women playing in the Women's League on Monday nights.

Discussion was held regarding a Fundraiser to be held on Saturday, October 14, 2023. Details to be announced at a later date.

Richard made a motion with a second from Jessi O'Bannon to purchase a new ice maker at a cost of \$1,200 instead of repairing the old one for \$2,200. Motion passed unanimously.

The Park Director reported that a grant has been approved for 3 more acres of wildflowers.

The Park Director stated that the Schmidt Tournament had approximately 100 golfers and sold over \$1,055.00 in beer sales.

Discussion was held regarding Winter Hours for the Golf Course.

The Golf Course committee will be meeting to address rental prices for events at the Clubhouse.

Items Which May Arise

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be held Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at noon at the Recreation Center.

Meeting adjourned at 1:18 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Andrea Owens, Parks and Recreation Dept Secretary.