

Centralia Park Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 5, 2023
Centralia Community Golf Course
12:00 PM

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

Also Present: Erle Bennett—Park Director, Andrea Owens—Secretary, and Harold Decker.

Meeting was called to order at 12:08 p.m. by President, Phil Hulen.

The Minutes from November 14, 2023, were approved by consent.

The Treasurer's Report from October 2023 was approved by consent.

Bev Reynolds made a motion to go into closed session. Richard Dickerson 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, Jessi O'Bannon, Lindsey Magley, Mandi Barnes, Bev Reynolds, and Phil Hulen. Voting Against: None. The session was now closed.

During the closed session, Dale Davidson made a motion with a second from Bev Reynolds to add a dependent onto Andrea Owens Health Insurance at a cost of \$1,109.00 a month, current Employee Plan is \$672.00 a month. Andrea will forgo a raise in April 2024 to offset the cost. Phil Hulen asked that the motion be adopted by role call vote. Voting for: Dale Davidson, Richard Dickerson, John Wheeler, Todd Allen, Lindsey Magley, Mandi Barnes, Jessi O'Bannon, Bev Reynolds and Phil Hulen. Voting Against: None.

There being no further business, Bev Reynolds asked for the meeting to come out of closed session. John Wheeler 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, Lindsey Magley, Mandi Barnes, Jessi O'Bannon, Bev Reynolds and Phil Hulen. Voting Against: None. The session was now open.

Recreation Center

It was reported that the Recreation Center currently has 2,732 members. Last month the membership was 2,721 and last year the membership was 2,601.

The following list of classes are being offered in December 2023 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.
- ❖ Senior in Shape taught by Christyne Robertson Monday through Fridays 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- ❖ Body Bar taught by Christyne Robertson Monday through Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The Park Director reported that Youth Basketball is going very well—the games at the Recreation Center on November 25, 2023, brought in \$280 in revenue for gate fees and \$420 in concessions revenue. Games will be played at the Recreation Center on Saturday, December 9, 2023, and Saturday, December 16, 2023.

The Park Director reported that the High School Volleyball Coach and players will be conducting a Youth Volleyball League for 5th-6th grade girls February-March 2024. Details to be announced at a later date.

Discussion was held regarding options for a new piece of Fitness Equipment to add to the budget for April 2024. No decision was made at this time.

Kids Club is continuing to go well with 46-50 participants attending on a daily basis.

Park

The Park Director reported that Cab Aitkens' wife is donating \$5,000 to the Park Department and would like a Memorial Tree and Marker planted at the City Recreation Park in honor of him.

The Park Director reported that the TRIM Grant has started, and dead trees are currently being removed throughout the Park System.

The Park Director reported that Centralia Parks and Recreation Department will be highlighted in the Missouri Conservation Magazine to share information regarding the TRIM Grant and the planting of new trees and wildflowers.

The East Field restroom project will begin in Spring 2024.

The Park Director informed the Board that a Skag Mower at a cost of \$9,999 from Henderson Implement will be added to the budget for April 2024.

Discussion was held regarding the Trail Grant being due in February 2024. The announcement of who is awarded will take place in the Summer of 2024, and the project will begin October 2024. Phil Hulen described that the Grant allows departments to use their own staff as "non-skilled labor", and skilled labor will be paid prevailing wage. The Grant offers up to \$250,000 to cities who qualify.

Discussion was held regarding part of the Capital Campaign Fundraising money will be going toward the outdoor Pickle Ball Courts and/or a Park Space in the Northeast side of town.

Discussion was held regarding applying for the Playground Scrap Tire Grant to replace the wood chip mulch with scrap tire mulch or tiles.

Light up the Night began at the City Square on Friday, December 1, 2023 and will go through January 3, 2024.

John Wheeler, Lindsey Magley, and Mandi Barnes left at 1:14 p.m.

Pool

The Park Director reported that he is going to reapply for the ARPA Grant to help offset the cost of upgrading the filtration system at the Pool, the slide, and a new pump for the Splash pad.

Discussion was held regarding not increasing the daily admission fee, but possibly increasing the pool party fees. Discussion was also held regarding the option of holding two different pool parties at the same time. No decision was made at this time.

Golf

The Park Director reported that he will be submitting a Grant for assistance in obtaining a new pump for the Well that feeds the irrigation pond.

Richard Dickerson left at 1:23.

The Park Director informed the Board that the FFA and 4-H will be helping plant the wildflower seeds at the Course.

The Park Director reported that fees were not increased at the Golf Course but will be in 2024—proposed fee structure is attached.

Items Which May Arise

Discussion was held regarding the Use Tax to be on the ballot again in April 2024.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be held Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at noon at the Recreation Center.

Meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Andrea Owens, Parks and Recreation Dept Secretary.