

CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
PARK BOARD MEETING
RIFAC, Room 5
Rock Island IL 61201

3/19/24– Minutes

1. Call to Order

President Fred Dasso called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. Attendance

Members Present: Fred Dasso, Mike Foley, Paul Hansen, Venessa Taylor

Members Absent: Bill Anderson, John McEvoy

Staff Present: Todd Winter, Assistant Director; Kimberly Kruse, Parks Administrative Office Manager

Staff Absent: John Gripp, Executive Director

Audience: none

3. February Park Board Minutes

Mr. Hansen motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Foley seconded. All voted yes.

4. Correspondence

We have a thank you from Sherrard Library District and Every Child that were recognized.

5. Monthly Report from Finance Department as of January

Finances are through January. Expenses will show high without matching revenue as most facilities are closed during this time. Capital projects are separated out now. Saukie will have a large adjustment with the budget approved for the clubhouse expense. The golf courses were opened in March and will see a strong revenue increase as it is open earlier than usual.

6. Approval of the Bills for the Month of February for \$309,524.86

Mr. Dasso: Aye Mr. Foley: Aye Mr. McEvoy: Abs Ms. Taylor: Aye Mr. Hansen: Aye Mr. Anderson: Abs

7. Director's Report and other reports

The locker rooms are done. There has been a little adjustment but over all going well. The RIFAC windows are not quite done. Eagle Scouts are working on a portapot enclosure for Lincoln Park and Denkmann Park to reduce vandalism as well as finish picnic table projects for Sunset Park. Hodge Park grant was received to build a trail around the park with ADA accessibility. Mel McKay pickleball courts are done. Lincoln Park tennis courts are done. Currently Augustana has full use and closed to the public currently as per the agreement and will be open to the public in the summer. Saukie has selected J's Pro Draft and will bid for a general contractor soon. It is the hope to begin construction this summer. The Saukie Stone House is going to be the temporary location for the clubhouse operations while the new clubhouse is being built. Funding is being sought out through Halpin grant and other fundraising efforts to bring the house up to code. This location will have limited concessions and will probably bring in a food truck to help with offerings. The new clubhouse will have a golf simulator and will be available for use year-round. The new golf software is live for tee times. Fore UP is working well so far and the staff has done a great job picking it up. The Bally's partnership is going well with several tee times already booked.

Sponsorships are going well and currently looking for sponsors for adult programming and theme nights. Preschool is almost full. The sweetheart dance was held with several attendees. RIFAC gained 86 new members. Efforts to work with the Library and MLK Center to hold more coop programming are underway. A team building/employee day is planned at MLK Center. Another event called Soul of the City will be held in the summer as a collaboration effort. Working with the Library to have pickleball paddles, set of clubs, and so on that can be rented out to promote activities and engage the community. It is also a great way for seniors to find things to do outside of classes along with the Library doing their outdoor book club and working with the parks. MLK has a new steam lab and working on opportunities to bring camps in. Community conversations were done to engage the community on their feedback on the Library and Parks and Recreation offerings and services. Working with Carrie for community surveys. The golf course is starting to received the large pieces of equipment from the new lease. It will be arriving sporadically due to the supply chain. There will also be a beverage gator. Several trees were taken down at the courses. There have been requests to donate to have memorials done so working on how to maybe donate several trees or new signage rather than a bench. It is more impactful to the course.

Volleyball camp is going on. Soccer has been pushed back a week due to weather. Sports bus trips are selling out. The Campbell Sports Complex is in transition to move salvageable items in town. The plant calendar will be placed out on May 15th at Longview Park. Met with Friends of Longview Park to keep naturalized areas mowed down and meeting with disc golf group to discuss layout. There are funding requests out for the lagoon and conservatory.

8. New Business

Special Event Application: River City Church

River City Church wish to hold an egg hunt at Schwiebert Park for March 23rd and will order their own portapots and have amplified sound. Staff recommends approval. Mr. Foley motioned, Mr. Hansen seconded. All said yes.

Special Event Application: Community Church

The Community Church wish to hold a worship service at Schwiebert Park with amplified sound. Staff recommends approval. Mr. Hansen motioned, Mr. Foley seconded. All said yes.

9. Items not on the Agenda

Venessa brought up maybe having a QR Code at the parks to get easier access to the surveys the parks put out and to also let the public know about the location and upcoming events.

Mr. Foley moved to adjourn. Mr. Hansen seconded. All said yes. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Kimberly B Kruse,
Parks & Recreation
Admin Office Manager