

PARK & RECREATION BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2001
6:30 P.M.

- Call to Order:** The Park & Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 W. 15th Street, Rushville. President Jack Harmon called the meeting to order. Members present were George Coons, Tim Shuppert, Charles Brown and Tracey Phillips and Wilma Joe Kile. Also present was Parks Director Danny Mathews, Attorney Paul Barada, Mayor Bob Bridges, Secretary Carla Sharpe, Jan Voiles, *Rushville Republican*, Jeff and Kathy Levins, Ramona Wilkinson and several members of the Master Gardeners group.
- Minutes:** Minutes of January 9, 2001 was presented for approval. Coons moved to approve minutes. Shuppert seconded. Motion carried.
- Old Business:** Presentations of the Friends of the Park Awards were given at this time to: Jeff and Kathy Levins of Levins Greenhouse for their donation of flowers last summer.
Master Gardeners Group for donating their time making our parks look beautiful last summer.
Ramona Wilkinson from Wal-Mart for all the things that Wal-Mart does for our Parks Department.
Photos were taken by the Rushville Republican.
- Reports:** **Budget/Financial** – Budget still on a need to spend money basis. Anything over \$250.00 needs to be approved.
Personnel – Granted permission from the Board of Works to advertise for part-time summer help. Positions advertised for are Pool Manager, Assistant Pool Manager, Pool Staff, Concessions and Park Department summer help.
Facilities – The Shop Class at the High School are building 5 new picnic tables for the Parks Department. The Parks Department furnished the lumber and hard wear; the class is furnishing the labor for the project. Each table will cost less than \$75.00 and are real nice tables.
Harmon stated he appreciated the schools willingness to work with the Parks Board on the tables.
Programs – The Parks Department sponsored a Valentine Dance for BRMS 7th and 8th graders this past Friday. It was a huge success. Every student that attended the dance seemed to have a good time. Mathews thanked those that chaperoned and thanked Carla Sharpe for all her help.
Harmon thanked all those that helped out on the dance.
Other – Mathews reported that him and the Mayor are in the process of trying to create a new job for Ed Wolfe for this summer. We feel that creating a job for Ed as Downtown Maintenance will make for a safer environment and give him more self-responsibility. It will also keep the downtown cleaner and more attractive for all. Ed's job duties will be picking up all trash on the sidewalks, curbs and alleys, sweeping the sidewalks as needed. Keeping grass and weeds mowed at City Hall, Wilkie Park, Community Foundation and the Fire Station. Mathews stated this would be good for Ed as well as for the City.
- Claims:** Reviewed prior to meeting by Shuppert and Coons. Coons moved to approve claims for the month. Shuppert seconded. Motion carried.
- Old Business:** **Discuss Electric Bills for Pool** – Mathews reported that the electric was running right around \$400-\$500 with all the outside lights running. The electric with heat lamps only is running \$110.
Harmon stated he appreciated all efforts brought forth in the parks by all.
Coons asked if there were any recommendations or standards for hiring new employees coming in this summer.
Harmon stated we trained ourselves last year as we were under the gun to get new pool open.
Mathews stated that he would take applications and hire a Pool Manager and let the Pool Manager help in hiring the pool staff.
Barada stressed the importance of having the rules and regulations on file. Have certifications on file of lifeguards. Have the procedures handbook on site, even for the concession stand.

Discuss South Memorial Park Bridge – Mathews stated that he has talked to other people in vicinity of park and they too would like to see a bridge South of the Park Restaurant even with the Sunken Garden. Mathews stated he agrees and feels we should look at this and get quotes or bids. Mathews stated this is something we don't have to jump into but to keep it in the back of our minds.

New Business:

Discussion of Walking/Fitness Trail Resurfacing – Board agreed the walking trail gets a tremendous amount of use. Is deteriorating in spots, needs sealed in spots. Mathews stated that if anything is done this year he feels we should accomplish this and focus on it this year. Kile made the recommendation to pursue getting bids on resurfacing and resealing of the fitness trail.

Discuss Movie in the Park Program – Video Presentation – Sharpe handed out information on this new program. Mathews stated that he received this in the mail and it caught his eye. The board decided to review information that was given to them and tabled it this month and to put back on the agenda next month. Shuppert asked if we would charge for this program. Mathews stated he would like to. Harmon asked Mathews to call a few references and see what they thought about the program and ask if they charged for the event and how they managed the event.

Present Completed Master Plan for Approval/Additions or Corrections – Master Plans were sent out with agendas in mail for board's review prior to meeting. Harmon thanked Kile and Sharpe for all their hard work and preparation. Sharpe stated that the only pages that wasn't complete was the Priority Actions for the new Flatrock River Park, as she didn't have figures for those items. Brown stated that after looking through the Master Plan he has noticed that most people want roller blade and skate boarding parks and shelter houses. Sharpe stated that she would get with Clark and have him attend next meeting concerning the skateboard park. Brown stated that he would work with Clark and get involved with this project. Kile stated that the kids want this. We did this survey and now we need to address the needs. Coons stated the parks have been here 30-40 years and we need to make change. Mathews reported that Clark had built a skateboard ramp for his son out of 2 x 4's and plywood, was 4 foot high and is really impressive. Kile asked to put this back on the March agenda and to get the word out that we are going to do this and get others involved. Harmon thanked the board for getting involved.

Harmon stated that we could amend, revise and update the Master Plan as we go.

Kile moved to approve the Master Plan. Shuppert seconded. Motion carried.

Approve Resolution #2001-4 (PR) – Adopting Master Plan – Kile moved to approve Resolution #2001-4, adopting the Master Plan. Shuppert seconded. Motion carried.

Discuss Shelter House Fees – Mathews stated that he would like to raise the shelter house fees this year from \$20.00 for an enclosed shelter to \$30.00 and from \$10.00 for an open shelter to \$20.00, starting immediately. Kile moved to raise the fees from \$20.00 to \$30.00 for enclosed shelter and from \$10.00 to \$20.00 for the open shelters starting immediately. Phillips seconded. Motion carried.

Coons questioned the D.J. Service for the dance as to why anyone else wasn't contacted.

Sharpe stated that she done that. Kevin Green D.J.'s for the schools and the Boys/Girls Club and that's why she called him. He knows what the kids like to hear and what he can play and feels he does a good job. He also gave us a deal on the price.

Coons stated that Nathan Wickersham and his son Tyler both have D.J. services and they would have liked to have been contacted.

Sharpe stated that she was sorry, she didn't know of other D.J.'s.

Kile stated that she don't feel that high school kids should be allowed to play and that they don't advertise their business and Kevin has his business established and is well liked.

Mathews stated that his own personal feeling is he would like to help others get started but that Kevin is the most popular D.J. and that he draws the crowds, therefore the attendance is better.

The next meeting date was set for March 13th.

There being no further business, Brown moved to adjourn. Coons seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

JACK HARMON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE COONS, VICE PRESIDENT

TIM SHUPPERT, MEMBER

WILLMA JO KILE, MEMBER

TRACEY PHILLIPS, MEMBER

CHARLIE BROWN, MEMBER

ATTEST:

CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY