To: Clark Park Advisory Council

From: Rose Wehner

Re: Minutes of July 18, 2023 Meeting

Date: July 24, 2023

Attending: Eric Anderson, Rich Costello, Jeff Daube, Bill Donahue, Jeff Jenkins, Howard Luecke, Mike Manrique, Jon Schwass, Anne Vargo, Rose Wehner

Minutes

Our meeting at Burning Bush Brewery began at 7:07 PM. Eric added a clarification to the minutes of our June 27, 2023 meeting. Sod was transplanted to the jumps in the bike park. With that clarification the minutes were approved.

Treasurer’s Report

Rich reported that we’ve received a few small donations. We’ll also be receiving half of a $540 check we received from Burning Bush Brewery for our split of beverages for the 5K. Rich will give an update on the proceeds from the 5K as soon as he receives it from Horner Park. We currently have about $36,000 in our checking account.

Park Report

Rose asked if there were any plans for a message board at Clark Park. Bill will ask Tom for an update. We need a message board that is heavy duty. More wood chips have been ordered for the paths in the woods. The TIF that would substantially widen the paths in the park in moving along. Forestry was out at the park. Tom, Kiala Moore and Bill joined the forestry rep. Eric also stopped by. Eric said the forestry mentioned that they have a small staff that has to cover a big area. We haven’t heard how many trees would be cleared out of the woods. Eric put in a request to have the piles of branches removed from Rockwell.

CAMBR Report

The barrels in the woods have been overflowing with garbage. Jon put handles on some of them so it would be easier to empty them. We’re considering getting a dolly to help remove the trash. These containers aren’t part of regular garbage pickup. Jon expects the stairs on the container to be done in August. CAMBR’s annual event will probably be in late September. Tom put up a few more directional signs. They’re going to move out some of the dirt. Jeff will help get it into some of the low lying areas. Jon spoke with Logan at Big Marsh Park about programming and jobs.

Digital Committee Report

Anne reported that the traffic flow to the website has fallen off. It will probably increase as we get closer to our next fundraiser. Anne will add some more content including a 5K follow up.

2nd Annual 312 River Run 5K

Mike will try to schedule a recap meeting. Next year we’ll publicize the official time.

Safety Committee Report

The issues are ongoing. Bill hopes the other items for the park can be rolled into the asphalt TIF. The fence would cost $30/foot, $21,000 for an extra 700 feet. We will promote what the park is going to look like. Two pieces will come from Eric and Jeff. We can all contribute. Bill encouraged us to have it done by the next meeting. We might add some additional work days to improve the woods. Michael thinks the camera by the memorial has been replaced. Bill couldn’t get in touch with Jason Park to get info because he has been transferred.

Community Garden Renewal

Clark Park is part of the community gardens in the park program. Our renewal is up this year. Rose will send out a document with details about the letter of commitment and a liability waiver form to everyone. Please try to return it ASAP if you want to work in the garden. You have to work in the garden at least once a year.

Circus in the Parks

Jeff Jenkins, Executive Director of Midnight Circus in the Parks, gave us background information about his organization. He and his wife started it in 1995 at Welles Park. It expanded to multiple parks, then to Night Out in the Parks. Admission is $5-$20 depending on the park. Part of the admission fee goes to the advisory council. Every performance sells out. Income can also be generated by selling ads. It was free during COVID. CPD wants to keep it free. The matter is currently under negotiation. They’ve raised almost $2 million for parks. They usually plan the tour in February with an 8 week season. The tent seats 550. Each PAC gets 6 program pages to sell. Tickets usually go on sale in July. There are 15-20 performers. They can’t necessarily accommodate every PAC. It might be a great way to celebrate the 30th anniversary of our PAC.

Work Day Saturday July 29 9:00 am to 12 noon

We will try to come early and stay late to get a lot done. Jeff Jenkins would be available for some work days.

Horner Park Brew Fest July 21 6-10 PM

Eco Fest August 19, 10-2 Welles Park

Mike, Rose, Jeff and Anne will be there. We hope to sell some t-shirts.

Twilight Canoe September 10 5:30

Bill distributed draft flyers. Please send any suggestions, corrections to Anne ASAP. Bill will change the top line to make CPAC more prominent.

Other Business

Michael informed us that the young man who spends a lot of time at the park put together a presentation about the wildlife and things he’s seen.

Next Meeting Tuesday August 15, 2023 at 7:00 PM at Burning Bush Brewery.

The meeting ended at 8:50 PM.

2-