

ADVISORY PARK BOARD

Committee Meeting – Tuesday, July 16, 2019 – 5:15 p.m.
Branson RecPlex – 1501 Branson Hills Parkway – Branson, MO

AGENDA

- 1) Call to Order.
- 2) Approval of June 18, 2019 Minutes.
- 3) Presentation of Financial Report.
- 4) Update on Tournament.
- 5) Update on Sports Facility Discussion.
- 6) Update on Capital Projects.
- 7) Review of Lakeside Forest GPS Integrated Map.
- 8) Update on Parks and Recreation.
- 9) Member's Report.
- 10) Adjourn.

Where Values are the Difference

JULY: SAFETY

Maintaining an environment free from hard.

Park Board Minutes
June 18, 2019

Members Present: Candy Sullinger, Gabe Miller, Scott McCaulley, David Parish, Bob Simmons, Julie Wolfe, Andrew Brown, Jamie Whiteis, and Garrett Vanderpool

Members Absent: Danielle Dingman

Staff Present: Cindy Shook, Jason Reinsch, Marsha Fulton

The meeting was called to order.

Cindy introduced the newest Park Board member, David Parish. David then gave the board a brief personal background and his job history. The board extended a warm welcome.

Scott McCaulley made a motion to approve the Park Board minutes dated April 16, 2019. Julie Wolfe seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Business:

1. The first item on the agenda was the presentation of the financial report for May 2019. Cindy started by giving David a quick explanation of the report. Cindy stated that it has been a little bit of a slow start to the summer season. She noted that our tournaments, pool and concessions had been negatively impacted by the weather, but the department was hopeful that they would rebound in the coming weeks. On a positive note, Cindy reported that Day Camp is off to a good start and she attributes that to online registration, additional out trips and increased programming. Additionally, she shared that the campground rebounded after the first couple of rows had to be closed for about a week due to high water. Scott inquired about the youth basketball cost center. Cindy that due to the timing of the program, the majority of the revenues fall in one year and the expenses in the next year, giving an appearance that things are out of line. She explained that towards the end of the year, when the revenue for 2019 comes in, the cost center will even out. Cindy reminded the board that they had implemented a pay raise to seasonal staff this year, in order to stay competitive in hiring seasonal help, causing some cost centers to increase in expenses. Bob noted that concessions were down in revenue, but down even more in expenses. Jason added that Adam was doing a fantastic job with ordering and trying to keep the appropriate amounts of product on hand to reduce any loss or waste. Cindy then pointed out that we are using a new app for scheduling workers called When to Work, and it has helped in not only staffing but also with trying to keep costs down.

2. The next item on the agenda was an update on Stockstill Park. Cindy shared that Stockstill recently reopened after being closed for about one month due to flood damage. Cindy stated that damage was again done to the walking path and additional concrete was poured to repair these areas. Cindy went on to say that she felt that future consideration will have to be given to

removing the small children's playground. This playground was left after the 2017 flood due to its popularity, but she believes a chance may need to be made due to the frequency and severity of flooding at the park. Cindy reported that the total cost to repair the playground was nearly \$5,000 in labor and materials. Scott stated that he had been down there a couple of times since it had reopened and it was interesting to see how the area was used, including the repurposing of the old baseball fields. Bob added that it was a shame that the high spot of the park was the parking lots. Andrew stated that on a Facebook post there had been some negative comments and questions regarding the park. Cindy stated that he is always welcome to refer them to the Park's Department to allow for clarification. Jason added that he had been down to the park the previous Sunday with his girls and they had really enjoyed it. Cindy stated that park staff was working on replacing the roof on the bathroom and that repairs were also planned for the tennis building. Cindy added that unfortunately there has been several incidents of vandalism in the park and that she had been working with the Police Department to add cameras in some areas. Garrett stated that a customer from his business had recently sold some cameras to the City and wondered if they were for the Parks Department. Cindy stated that Bob had always been a big advocate for cameras and they are researching the options further, but these specific cameras were not for the Parks Department. In addition, they are working to trim and clean out the overgrown large culvert so that sight lines from the parking lot to the tennis courts can be improved. Bob added that he had been impressed with Chief Matthews and how aware he was of issues, and he wondered if the new safety tax could possibly provide funding for cameras in the future.

3. The next item on the agenda was an update on pickleball. Cindy shared with the board that pickleball was continuing to gain interest and popularity. She stated that the Branson Pickleball Club, led by Autumn Price, was truly instrumental helping it to grow. Cindy told the board that with the assistance of the Pickleball Club, they recently lined two pickleball courts at Stockstill tennis courts to provide more opportunities for play. Jason stated that there is a really awesome group of players that play at Stockstill and they were very welcoming to players at all levels. Cindy shared with the board that a pickleball tournament was hosted at the RecPlex on June 8-9 that served as a fund raiser to provide dedicated pickleball courts in the parks. She added that she is excited to work with a group that wants to partner with our department to add more facilities to better serve our community. Bob stated that in Florida they have large community buildings with lots of different groups playing pickleball. Garrett stated that it seemed to be a sport that is bridging a gap for multiple generations. Jason concluded this item by stating that Cindy had worked extremely hard to build a relationship and assist the pickleball group, and hopefully it will all pay off with the continued growth of the program.

4. The next item on the agenda was an update on the new partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation. Jason opened this item by reminding the board of the fishing initiative that they had been working on with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). Jason stated that he, Adam, and Sarah had recently participated in training with the MDC, and would be conducting a pilot clinic with the kids attending our Day Camp. He said that he hoped

this program would be successful, and would be something that could expand to the public as well. Jason stated that as part of the Discover Nature Fishing Program, MDC donated 40 fishing poles, gear and teaching resources for the catch and release program. Jason stated that MDC also had stocked the ponds with hybrid bluegill and that they were allowing them about four weeks of growth before opening the ponds to the public for fishing.

5. The next item on the agenda was the update on disc golf at Eiserman Park. Cindy explained to the board that they were currently working with professional disc golfer Jeff Renner and his dad, Ray Renner, on redesigning the course. Cindy stated that she had received positive feedback on the new design from City of Branson Alderman Kevin McConnell, who had recently played over the weekend. Cindy stated they hoped to run an event on August 3 to recognize National Disc Golf Day.

6. The next item on the agenda was a potential new partnership on a mural at Murphy Park. Cindy stated that at one point years ago a mural was painted on the wall by an art group and there is now new interest from members of Southern Missouri Arts Connection (SMAC) in painting a new mural. Cindy stated that when the mural is complete, a clear coat of graffiti resistant paint will be added. Scott asked if they thought it would be done by the end of summer. Cindy stated that she wasn't sure and would provide the board an update.

7. The next item on the agenda was the presentation of the new park maintenance staff structure. Cindy shared with the board that on August 2nd, long time City of Branson employee Martie Dunn will be retiring after 36 years. Cindy went on to state that while Martie would be greatly missed, it did allow the department to restructure and add two Supervisor I positions over janitorial and maintenance that will allow more focus in those areas.

8. The next item on the agenda was the recreation update. With no comments for this item the board moved on to member's reports.

Member's Report

1. Scott McCaulley shared that his mother-in-law asked to pass on that she is a big fan of the dog park and that it was very user friendly.

2. Andrew inquired about hiking trails, stating that he had spoken with a couple inquiring about it. Cindy shared that there were maps on the website and available at the front desk.

Additionally, she shared that the department intern had installed trail markers at Lakeside Forest earlier this year to assist with wayfinding and emergency services. Garrett added that the app, All Trails, was a great one for hikers and that they might suggest that too.

3. Bob shared that he had a recent discussion with some people from the Kirbyville School, and they seemed to open to working with the RecPlex to allow usage of their baseball field in the future.

Scott make a motion to adjourn. Gabe seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Meeting Adjourned 6:25pm

UNAUDITED

Parks & Recreation Program Cost Analysis 50% OF 6 MONTH as of June 30, 2019 FY 2019, PERIOD 6

Program	Program Revenues	Program Revenues	Program Expenditures	Program Expenditures	Operating Rev (Exp)	Operating Rev (Exp)
	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD
Administration	-	-	187,569	179,226	(187,569)	(179,226)
Capital	-	-	-	66,772	-	(66,772)
Community Center	16,777	14,098	39,443	32,579	(22,667)	(18,481)
Recreation Complex					-	-
RecPlex	182,811	167,948	277,249	283,680	(94,438)	(115,732)
Concessions	88,340	99,953	58,723	73,697	29,617	26,257
Tournaments	18,826	10,994	171	13	18,655	10,980
Dog Park	3,910	3,354	1,435	2,934	2,475	420
Day Camp	47,210	38,053	30,744	30,696	16,466	7,357
Pool	53,144	66,646	59,258	60,214	(6,114)	6,432
Swim Team	8,081	11,484	7,458	10,699	623	785
Golf Course	-	11,453	444	22,003	(444)	(10,550)
Campgrounds	349,475	329,305	139,415	130,343	210,060	198,962
Special Events/Programs	10,170	8,576	5,636	7,311	4,534	1,265
Cheerleading	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Facilities/Other	778,743	761,862	807,545	900,166	(28,802)	(138,303)
Adult Basketball	1,865	1,840	9,156	8,974	(7,291)	(7,134)
Adult Volleyball	750	1,375	4,833	5,747	(4,083)	(4,372)
Adult Softball	-	210	692	1,825	(692)	(1,615)
Tennis	785	975	873	1,580	(88)	(605)
Youth Baseball	35,500	36,355	25,018	27,141	10,482	9,214
Youth Basketball	190	1,010	24,947	24,115	(24,757)	(23,105)
Youth Soccer	21,240	24,298	16,144	16,390	5,096	7,907
Youth Volleyball	40	555	3,458	4,561	(3,418)	(4,006)
Adult Football/Soccer	-	-	-	1,112	-	(1,112)
Total Ball Programs	60,370	66,618	85,120	91,444	(24,750)	(24,826)
Parks	-	-	248,935	209,558	(248,935)	(209,558)
Liberty Plaza	-	-	5,774	2,140	(5,774)	(2,140)
Total	839,113	828,480	1,147,374	1,203,307	(308,261)	(374,827)
Other Revenues:						
Cigarette Tax	32,288	33,113	-	-	32,288	33,113
Other Revenues	9,849	56,118	-	-	9,849	56,118
Transfer/Landscape	-	0	-	-	-	-
Transfer/General	445,221	405,000	-	-	445,221	405,000
Total	1,326,470	1,322,710	1,147,374	1,203,307	179,096	119,404

Administration Expense is
16%
of the Total Expense

UNAUDITED



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MEDIA RELEASE

Date: July 9, 2019
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Branson Hosting USSSA Girls World Series Championship

BRANSON, Mo – The City of Branson is hosting 63 girls softball teams from 12 different states for the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) girls fastpitch softball World Series that starts today and goes through July 13, 2019. Opening ceremony festivities were held July 8, 2019, at the Branson RecPlex and at Silver Dollar City’s Echo Hollow.

Branson has hosted this tournament for 11 consecutive years after the USSSA moved this World Series Championship to Branson in 2009. This tournament will feature teams of 9-10 and 16-18-year-old girls playing at the Branson RecPlex, Branson High School and Hollister High School.

“We are excited to host this tournament again as it provides a great way to showcase Branson to nearly 1,000 players, coaches and their families,” said Branson Parks and Recreation Director, Cindy Shook.

This tournament is expected to have a large economic impact on the area, bringing in an estimated 4,000 people to Branson for the week with an estimated direct visitor spending of over \$2.3 million.

“These teams love coming to Branson because of the great family atmosphere and all the fun things to do. We invite the public to come out and see some top-notch softball throughout the week,” Shook said.

States with teams represented this year are: Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Texas, Nebraska, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas and Oklahoma.

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JULY Parks & Recreation

There is still time to sign up for "SUMMER IT UP" DAY CAMP!

Ages: Completed K-6th Grade

Dates: May 28-Aug 2

The Summer Day Camp attended a field trip at Shepherd of the Hills this past week to enjoy their new adventure ropes course!

The kids had a lot of fun testing their limits and working through several obstacles, one being a zip-line!



Branson Parks Department has partnered with the Missouri Department of Conservation to offer catch and release fishing in the ponds at Eiserman Park. Children ages 15 and under will be allowed to fish the ponds during designated hours. Fishing poles and tackle boxes will also be available for use at no cost during the hours of operation at the Community Center.



The Park Maintenance staff recently placed a new roof on the Stockstill Park restroom. The old shingled roof, which was 25 years old, was replaced with a new metal roof. Park staff is now working on replacing the roof at the tennis building.



Also don't forget to sign up for ...

- Youth Tennis Clinics
- Challenger Soccer Camp

Adult Softball League registration is open until July 16 for the summer session! Multiple leagues are offered available. Register your team at www.playmissourinasa.com.



Mark your calendar for a FREE Movie in the Park—Friday, August 9 at the Branson RecPlex

The first **free swim day** sponsored by **The Tracks Family Fun Park** was held on Wednesday, June 26. We had 436 in attendance and donated over 400 pounds of food to CAM!



Tropical Tuesdays at the Branson AquaPlex will be held July 2 & 9 from 1:00-5:00pm. Live music will be provided by DJ Will and a variety of fun games will be featured. Don't miss this fun time!

A second **FREE swim day** sponsored by **State Park Marina** will be held on Wednesday, July 31. This

event also serves as a food drive for CAM so consider bringing a non-perishable food item to donate.





City of Branson
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MEDIA RELEASE

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New Youth Fishing Program Starts Tuesday

BRANSON, Mo – The Branson Parks and Recreation Department is excited to announce a new summer youth catch and release fishing program to encourage younger generations to participate in a lifelong hobby and sport, even if they don't have access to fishing equipment.

The Branson Parks and Recreation Department has partnered with the Missouri Department of Conservation to stock the ponds at Eiserman Park, located adjacent to the Branson Community Center at 201 Compton Drive, with 150 hybrid bluegill fish. Fishing poles and tackle boxes are also available for use at no cost during the hours of operation at the Branson Community Center.

“This program will not only provide a great opportunity for the entire community to enjoy the benefits of fishing, but it is also part of our efforts to revitalize Eiserman Park. We are excited about our partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation and the benefits it is bringing to our community through, first, providing Archery for youth and now fishing,” said Branson Parks and Recreations Director, Cindy Shook.

Children ages 15 and under will be allowed to fish the ponds during designated hours. The ponds will be open for fishing on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8-11 a.m. and 4-7 p.m.

For questions regarding this youth catch and release program, call the Branson Community Center at (417) 337-8510.

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