

City of Evansville
Park & Recreation Board Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Due to COVID 19 this meeting will not be held in person. To attend the meeting virtually please go to: meet.google.com/ovb-qbcs-tqn or call: +1 (727) 325-2304 and enter pin: 876 271 864#

When you are not speaking, please mute your microphone or telephone to reduce background noise.

Copies of the packet and/or agenda are available at
http://www.ci.evansville.wi.gov/city_government/public_agendas_minutes/park_board.php

MINUTES

1. Call to order by Chairperson Joy Morrison at 6:00 pm
2. Roll call: Morrison, Espinosa, Merritt, Prudhon, Poock, Fuson, Hamilton. Also present were Ian Rigg, Ray Anderson, Angie Olsen, Leah Hurtleley, Mayor Bill Hurtleley
3. Motion to approve the agenda made by Prudhon and seconded by Merrit. Approved by voice vote.
4. Motion to waive the reading of the April 22, 2020 minutes and approve them as printed made by Espinosa and seconded by Prudhon. Approved by voice vote.
5. Citizen appearances other than agenda items listed: None
6. New business: Morrison inquired about installing the nets at the tennis courts at Leonard/Leota Park. Tennis falls under Phase 1 of the Rock County recommended reopening guidelines. Ray plans to get them up the week of the 18th.
7. COVID 19 Response:
 - A. Soccer: The soccer club will not have any organized activity this year. Decision was made to leave the goal nets in place although no city sanctioned events would take place.
 - B. Pool operations: City Administrator Rigg enclosed his recommendation on the pool which is to not open it for the 2020 season. The PRB members discussed the following issues. Could the CDC guidelines be met with current staffing levels? Since the current Rock County guidelines would limit the or eliminate swim lessons and the inability of the city to sell season passes there would be a significant drop in revenues that help support the pool. How can the safety of the pool patrons and pool staff be insured? How will the pandemic concerns impact attendance numbers? Mayor Hurtleley indicated that any motion made by the PRB would be a recommendation for the Common Council to consider due to the financial implications on the city budget. Poock made a motion to hold a special session of the PRB on June 8 to discuss the status of the pool for the 2020 season and determine the recommendation for the Common Council. Seconded by Hamilton and approved by voice vote.

C. Baseball: The program could not be modeled in the same way as past years. Only 9 coaches have signed up as compared to 19 coaches from 2019. The coaches are willing to try do more “clinics” to teach fundamentals since there aren’t enough coaches to conduct games. Under Phase 1 of the Rock County guidelines team sports are not recommended. Would a baseball fundamentals clinic fall under the exercise category which would be allowable if the number of attendees at the clinic were limited and activities could guarantee proper distancing. Motion to consider a clinic approach to baseball at the June 16 meeting made by Pooch, with a second by Merrit. Chairperson Morrison asked for a roll call vote: Espinosa no, Fuson no, Hamilton no, Merit yes, Pock yes, Prudhon no, Morrison no. Motion fails to pass by a vote of 5 to 2. Motion to have the city staff investigate moving to a clinic made by Espinosa and scoded by Prudhon. Morrison requested a roll call vote: Prudon yes, pock no, Hamilton yes, Fuson yes, Espinosa yes, Morrison no, Merrit yes, Motion carries 5 to 2.

Jon Frey appeared to update the Jays season, the Home Talent League has been postponed until July 4 and hopes to start the season then. The Thursday night league will not be held. The Sunday games will remain if the season is held. Jon plans to update again at the June meeting.

A review of the guidelines for parks and playground equipment and park shelter rentals.

8. Parks report: The summer crew has started. Mowing has started. Ray received estimates for cameras for the Park even though there are still some concerns about placement and the expense. Hope to have the Geese Away solution installed by late July. Thanks to Reverend Pooch for doing a volunteer clean up day. The formal Adopt a Park program has not been launched due to the pandemic.
 - A. Dog Park: \$14,822 for the fencing, depending on the budget it could start in fall of 2020 or be moved to 2021. The fencing should be an expense born by the city in case there is a decision to move the dog park at a later date.
9. Pool report: Badger Pool did the annual cleaning and will be sending someone out to inspect and give a quote on repair.
 - A. Referendum The final referendum language needs to go to the Common Council. Rigg is requesting the town of Union to also place a referendum on their ballot since there has been an increase the cost of construction.
 - B. Cost estimates: Rigg is investigating the cost difference if the pool was relocated to different location for comparison and see if substantial savings may be available in a location that won’t require the amount of earth moving as the current location.
 - C. Fundraising The referendum would raise \$5 million leaving \$3 to \$3.5 million at the current estimated cost. The Town of Union would be asked to contribute \$1 million and the remaining would need to be raised through contributions.
10. Old business: None
11. Other: None. Hamilton thanked Rigg and city staff for going above the call of duty during the pandemic

12. Meeting Reminder: Special Meeting on June 8th and Regular meeting on June 16, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
13. Motion to adjourn Made by Espinosa and seconded by Hamilton. Approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:15.