

PARK & RECREATION BOARD
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2000
6:30 P.M.

Call To Order: The Parks and Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 W. 15th Street, Rushville, IN 46173. President John Gridley called the meeting to order. Members present were George Coons, Jack Harmon and Wilma Jo Kile. Roy Bartlett and Tim Shuppert was absent. Also present Danny Mathews, Parks Director; Mayor Robert M. Bridges; Joe Malcom and Kim Berkemeier, Little Girls Softball; and Jan Voiles, Rushville Republican. Minutes were taken by Wilma Jo Kile in Sharpe's absence.

Minutes: Minutes of June 13, 2000 was presented for approval. Harmon moved to approve minutes. Coons seconded. Motion carried.

Reports: Budget/Financial – Mathews reported that the department appears to be within budget on all line items up to the end of June. I have closely monitored the pool expenditures and it appears that we will remain within the limits of the budget.

Personnel – We have hired no additional personnel. I would like to commend the full time and part time help for their efforts in getting the parks ready for the events, which have taken place during the past month.

Facilities – At this time all the park shelter houses are booked for picnics and reunions. There are no further problems to report at the pool or other park facilities at this time.

Programs – We are currently in the process of improving the Laughlin Park Cemetery. We have had several citizens involved in the restoration of the cemetery and the headstones including Bruce Davis who has donated manpower and equipment while Bill Henderson has been busy bringing the headstones back to their original color. The efforts of both these men are greatly appreciated and I think that once the restoration is completed that this cemetery would become quite the attraction for those individuals interested in the history of Rushville and Rush County.

Claims: Coons and Bartlett reviewed claims prior to meeting. Coons moved to approve claims for the month. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business: Joe Malcom & Kim Berkemeier – Little Girls Softball – Presented the board with a list of improvements the Rush Co. Girl's Softball League would like to implement this fall and in the next 2-3 years.

Short-Term Plan (from current to next spring)

- 1) Level the playing field. Currently, there is approximately a 3-foot drop-off between the infield and the fence in the outfield.
- 2) Replace the fence completely around the diamond. Currently, the fence from dug-out to outfield and around to the other dug-out is of wood. It is deteriorating and is becoming a safety issue.
- 3) Install a Scoreboard. The current scoreboard is small and hard to read.
- 4) Build Handicap Accessible Restrooms. The closest restrooms are 1 block away. Our players ages ranges from 6 yrs to 14 yrs. of age. These young ladies need a restroom closer than walking 1 block away.
- 5) Placing drainage tile under the field. Improve drainage of the field and parking area in the outfield.
- 6) Improving the concession stand and equipment room. Currently, we are not connected to the sanitary sewer.

Long-Range Plan (2 to 3 years)

Construct a field across the street west of the current diamond. Over the past two years we have added 4 new teams. The number of participants have increased by approximately 25. About 40% of participants are from the city. The other non-city residents have grandparents or other relatives who live in the city and come to the diamond to watch them. We feel that as our numbers increase, the need for an additional diamond is imperative. We have raised \$6,500 towards this plan. We are continuing our fund-raising towards our plan. The only help we would like the city to consider is connecting the new restrooms and concession stand to the sanitary sewer.

Our Goal For Tonight's Meeting:

- 1) Would the Park's Board consider this plan? (short-term plan)
- 2) What do we have to perform to receive approval? (short-term plan)
- 3) Would the Park's Board consider our long-range plan?
- 4) Do we need to approach the council or other city or county boards for their approval?
- 5) Other items that have not been discussed above?

Kile moved that they be allowed to proceed with their plans. Coons seconded. Motion carried.

Barb Tush protested the size limit on the slide at pool. We conveyed that the manufacturer set the guidelines. Insurance would be no good. Presented a letter from the attorney on this matter. Stated he reviewed the document on the Operations and Maintenance Manual from Whitewater West Industries, Ltd. The manual recommends that children under 48" tall not ride that ride. The attorney's opinion is that children under 48" tall should not be permitted to ride the curly slide at the new city pool.

Rollerblade/Skateboard Park - Kent Clark was present and reported on a skate board park they visited in Florida. He stated he would get plans and consultant to build one.

Master Plan – Kile made a report on the survey's and reported on the lap swim at the pool from 5:30 to 7:00 P.M.

Pool Update – Pool will remain open until Labor Day. Will find way to staff.
Waggener Community Pool Daily Attendance sheets were handed out showing the average attendance for the days open at the pool has been 240 people for a total of 6,001 people attending the pool in all so far.
These figures are as of June 15th when the pool opened:
Admissions \$13,063.31
Concessions \$6,236.93
Pool Parties \$700.00
Average Admissions \$522.53
Average Concessions \$249.47
Average Daily Revenue \$772.00 (as of Sunday, July 9, 2000)
Season Passes Sold (as of 7-7-00):
Child-\$30.00=63
Adult-\$60.00=2
Family-\$90.00=35
Pool Parties-\$100.00=19

New Business:

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

JOHN GRIDLEY, PRESIDENT

JACK HARMON, VICE PRESIDENT

ROY BARTLETT, MEMER

GEORGE COONS, MEMBER

WILMA JO KILE, MEMBER

TIM SHUPPERT, MEMBER

ATTEST:

WILMA JO KILE, ACTING SECRETARY