

PARK & RECREATION BOARD
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2000
6:30 P.M.

Call To Order: The Parks & Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 W. 15th Street, Rushville. Members present were Roy Bartlett, George Coons, Wilma Jo Kile, Tim Shuppert and Jack Harmon. Also present was Parks Director Danny Mathews; Mayor Robert M. Bridges; Attorney Paul Barada; Secretary Carla Sharpe; Boys/Girls Club Director Chet Walker; Marcus Ellis and Steve Land, Representative for the Memorial; Kent & Dominick Clark, Skateboard Representatives; and Jan Voiles, *Rushville Republican*.

Minutes: Minutes of August 8, 2000 was presented for approval. Kile moved to approve minutes. Bartlett seconded. Motion carried.

Reports: **Budget/Financial** – Mathews reported that he has had to move money around for summer help.

Personnel – Is hoping to keep his summer help until mid October.

Facilities – New swing set installed. Expecting curly slide in 2-3 weeks.

Programs – Music in the park went well. Have since had different groups come forward for next year.

Last weekend's horseshoe tournament was very successful. Great turnout. Had 28 pitchers with 40-50 people in all attending.

Mathews thanked Wilma Jo for her help in applying to Wal-Mart for the \$1,000 for the curly slide.

Mathews reported that he is working with Brad Whittaker to fix the electric motor that went bad. The part has been on back order, is in now and he will be here tomorrow to install it. Will run through the complete cycle to make sure everything is running right and then Whittaker will call Natari to come and run us through the shut down of the pool.

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

Old Business: **Chet Walker – Boys/Girls Club** – Walker thanked the Parks Board for their continued support to the Boys/Girls Club. Attendance is good. Welcomed all board members to pop in and take a look around.

Marcus Ellis – Memorial – Marcus Ellis and Steve Land were present and handed out information for a memorial he would like to put in Veterans Memorial Park. He showed the board pictures of the memorial at a total cost of \$40,000 which would expand across the creek. This would be a permanent thing. Ellis told the board he is not asking for money is just wanting the board's thoughts on putting something like this in the parks. The floor construction would be concrete. Showed the board the material this will be made out of. (See attached sheets)

Kile stated it was beautiful and would like to see it in our parks and questioned the legality of putting it across the creek. Will check with the DNR.

The Parks Board gave Ellis our blessing to find money to put this memorial in the park. Ellis thanked the board.

Kent & Dominick Clark – Skateboard Park – Kent Clark and his son Dominick was present to discuss a Skateboard Park. Kent said the first issue is money. He has no idea how much the black top would cost to pave the old tennis courts. Has been looking on the Internet and has been to skateboard parks. He stated this is relatively a safe sport and feels that it is important, if we do this, to let the kids take a roll.

Lumber could be obtained through lumber companies, donations from car washes, donated money from businesses and get the youth involved and let them take care of it.

Clark also handed out pictures of the Skateboard Park in Florida his family visited and stated there was not that first cuss word. All kids were required to wear protective gear.

He has been told that the materials will run anywhere from \$8-\$10 Thousand dollars.

The board feels the old tennis courts would be the spot to put this, putting the ice skating rink on one end and the Skateboard Park on the other end.

Clark then handed out a success story about a small town in Wisconsin, a town of 4,000, that has a skateboard park. (See Attached)

These ramps when constructed would be portable and could be put up in the winter months.

Gridley questioned the noise. Clark stated there is going to be noise.

A sign would be posted concerning rules and that protective gear must be worn at all times.

Coons stated that he wouldn't expect the police to set at the skateboard park at all times but feels it does need manned and if any wrong doing kids will be asked to leave.

Mathews stated that skateboard is sure a growing sport.

Kile asked if the City would pave the lot can the money be raised for the materials to build the ramps. Clark stated yes.

Kile feels there needs to be bleachers there as there will be lots of watchers.

Coons stated that he thinks this is needed, we need to change with the need.

Mayor Bridges stated that the biggest problem in Columbus is the littering and loud music. They assign Dare Officers to patrol the area. They have very little problems with smoking and drinking.

Harmon stated that he feels we need to define the scope of this project first and then come up with costs. Harmon thinks this is a great idea and recommends we pursue it.

Voiles asked Dominick if we get one big ramp now then add a ramp each year could they live with that. Dominick said yes.

Kile stated that she feels it is important to look at funding and suggested the foundation for grant monies. They have done a lot of great things in this community.

Kile stated that skateboarding is certainly something big to the youth of this community as it was the number 1 item on the recreational surveys.

Harmon stated that if we pave a 80 by 123 area, 9,840 square feet. He would like to have two quotes, one for the whole area and one for just 2/3 of the area.

Gridley asked the Clark's to come back next month with some facts and figures.

New Business: Kile explained the Park and Recreation Surveys. She stated that Rollerblading, Fitness Path and a new Shelter House were the top choices. She stated she pretty much has the 5-year plan written. We do have to have a community meeting and suggested we do that before one of our parks board meetings. She has been looking into grants. Its too late this year for a Reforestation Grant but that we should go ahead and write it for next year. This is a three-year grant; money will be received for three years with expert advice. Each tree in our parks needs to be identified and plotted in order to received this grant. Shuppert asked for legal descriptions of the parks and he will put them in his Auto Cad. Harmon stated he appreciated all the work Kile has done on the Master Plan.

Mayor Bridges announced that the American Builders and Contractors have given R. L. Turner the number 1 top award for the City of Rushville's Swimming Pool and will be presenting the City with an award on the 27th of this month.

Gridley stated that he had a citizen concern to share with the board. He had a few, not bad ideas and one was to put a parking area over closer to the restrooms, close to the picnic area. Mathews stated that he has talked to that person too and is looking into his concerns.

There being no further business Harmon moved to adjourn. Coons seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

JOHN GRIDLEY, PRESIDENT

JACK HARMON, VICE PRESIDENT

ROY BARTLETT, MEMBER

GEORGE COONS, MEMBER

WILMA JO KILE, MEMBER

TIM SHUPPERT, MEMBER

ATTEST:

CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY