

**GRAIN VALLEY PARK BOARD
MINUTES**

February 23, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:02 P.M. by President Brian Bray.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Brian Bray (President), Jared English (Vice President), Becky Gray (Secretary), Don Caslavka, Terry Hill, Chuck Harris, Shannon Davies (Director)

ABSENT: Norm Combs, Nathan Hays, Mike Switzer, Alderman Jayci Stratton

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Jared English, seconded by Chuck Harris to approve the November Minutes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- a. **REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:**
Shannon highlighted and explained the more notable expenditures, specifically those costs related to Blue Branch Creek pedestrian bridge design/engineering, new scorer tables at Monkey Mountain Park, and mower discharge upgrades. In recapping the 2020 Fiscal Year, although our Revenues are down in many of the line items (in large part due to closures/cancellations from the pandemic), we have also seen this balance out with a comparable reduction in Expenditures.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: none

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. **Veteran's Tribute** – Norm Combs and Mike Switzer
 - i. The official Dedication for Legacy Plaza is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 4:00pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Christina "Kiki" Claphan Memorial Playground** – Shannon Davies
 - i. Earlier this month, Shannon submitted a grant application to partially fund this project through the Land, Water and Conservation Fund, administered by the Missouri Department of Conservation. Shannon has been speaking with a landscaping design firm to not only come up with preliminary project costs to include in the grant application for matching funds, but to also use this firm to design a rendering of the new, all-inclusive playground. This promotional material will be used to solicit donations from the community for a playground that will be in memory of Kiki Claphan.

- b. **Blue Branch Creek Trail (Phase 2) Project Update** – Shannon Davies
 - i. Almost all of the preliminary site work is completed. The bridge is currently being fabricated with a tentative install date of mid to late March depending on the weather. The bridge installation should be completed within one day.

- c. **Football Facility Improvements** – Chuck Harris/Nilesh Patel (GVSL President)
 - i. There is a need for additional, lighted field space for the youth football program (Spring & Fall). The existing fields at the Football Field Complex do not provide enough field space and they are in need of some repairs.
 - ii. GVSL President, Nilesh Patel spoke to the board about the following:
 - 1. Installing lighting for the multi-purpose field east of the Pavilion. Perhaps the City and/or Park Board could help cost-share this endeavor.
 - 2. Can GVSL use the multi-purpose field at Monkey Mountain Park?
 - 3. Re-crowning of the football fields on Old 40 Highway.
 - 4. Additional practice locations?
 - iii. Re-crowning of the existing football fields would be difficult and costly. There are limitations with being allowed to move earth that is located in the floodway. That area stays wet longer than most areas due to its location, proximity to creeks and floods 2-3 times a year. It also gets heavy use annually by the youth football teams. The concern is investing money for improvements into an undesirable area that lacks a long-term future due to its location. Nilesh stated that there are areas on the fields that are a safety hazard. There are several low spots on the fields that collect water and only get deeper over time. The fields are no longer level and have grade undulations. Shannon stated that he and Jerry Jones will go out and mark those low areas so that the parks department can fill with dirt and re-seed. The earlier they can do it, the better so that grass can get reestablished before the fall football season.
 - iv. Shannon stated that GVSL is more than welcome to use the multi-purpose field at Monkey Mountain Park. However, it is not lighted.
 - v. Nilesh is going to look into the costs to install light fixtures on the existing light poles at multi-purpose field next to the pavilion. He will get back with us on the proposed costs to see if this is something that we can cost-share.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Legacy Plaza Transfer to Park Board** – Group Discussion
 - i. With the Veteran’s Tribute at Legacy Plaza now complete, the Pathways of Honor committee wants to transfer ownership to the Park Board.
 - ii. Jared English made a motion to accept conveyance of the Veteran’s Tribute at Legacy Plaza from the Pathways of Honor committee to the Grain Valley Park Board. Chuck Harris seconded. Motion carried.
 - iii. The conveyance will officially take place at the Dedication Event on May 5, 2021

- b. **Park Board Attendance (Article 6; Section 604)** – Group Discussion
 - i. The Park Board record of attendance was distributed to members that showed meeting attendance from 1/2016 through 1/2021. Nathan Hays has been absent for 3 consecutive meetings on several occasions over that 5-year span.
 - ii. Motion by Chuck Harris to remove Nathan Hays from the Grain Valley Park Board. Seconded by Terry Hill. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

- 1. **Operational Updates**
 - a. Hiring for the seasonal positions has begun.
- 2. **City Updates**
 - a. Nothing new to report.
- 3. **Past/Current Programs/Special Events**
 - a. Spring Karate – Starts 2/23
- 4. **Upcoming Programs/Special Events**

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- a. Blue Branch Creek Trail (Phase 2) Project
- b. Christina “Kiki” Claphan Memorial Playground
- c. Football Facility Improvements

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Chuck Harris, seconded by Jared English, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 P.M.

Next regular meeting will be March 30, 2021.

