

RUSSELLVILLE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
Minutes from Monthly Meeting 
September 15, 2020

Present: Dallis Clark, Jamey Ellis, Bryan Fisher, Greg Hines, Alderman Chris Olson, Terry Thomas
Absent: Johnny Brazil
Person Recording: Kelli Nealy
Guests: Hannah Butler-The Courier

Call to Order

Bryan Fisher called the meeting to order at noon.

Approval of Minutes

Dallis Clark made a motion to accept the minutes from the 8-13-20 commission meeting. Jamey Ellis seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. Park Master Plan-Approval and adoption of the Park Master Plan was tabled by City Council. A work session has been scheduled for September 15 at 5:30pm at City Hall to review and discuss the plan. The commissions were encouraged to attend the session. Half Associates has submitted the final bill, and any changes to the plan will incur an additional charge.

B. M. J. Hickey Pool-Bob Moore from Burton Pools & Spas submitted a cost estimate of repairs needed at Hickey Pool. The estimate includes replacing the liners in both pools, concrete work, new drains, new controller system for chemicals, pulsar feeder, and re-plumbing everything on the surface. The commissioners received a copy of the detailed estimate which totaled \$193,196.83. The estimate does not include electrical work which was estimated between \$5,000 - \$8,000, as well as leak detection and repair which could cost \$8,000 - \$10,000. A suggestion was made to add \$15,000 - \$20,000 to the budget for any unforeseen repairs. Mr. Moore said a good budget number for the project would be \$250,000 which does not include any repairs to the building. Burton Pools & Spas would not be interested in doing the repairs if they couldn't start by January 1, 2021. Director Thomas estimated the building remodel at \$25,000 - \$50,000 which would include re-painting, a drop ceiling, flooring, countertops, and new lighting. A discussion followed about the commission's recommendation regarding Hickey Pool. Thomas said Bob Moore did not recommend putting a Splash Pad in the same location as Hickey Pool because of the demolition work that would be needed. Alderman Olson suggested changing the discussion to two separate issues: 1. Outdoor features (Phase II) at the Aquatic Center 2. Repairs to Hickey Pool. Commissioner Clark was not in favor of spending \$300,000 on Hickey Pool. The commissioners were in favor of moving forward with Phase II at the Aquatic Center and doing select repairs at Hickey Pool. Commissioner Fisher will follow-up with Mayor Harris about the direction of the commission.

New Business

A. Special Events-KidsFest and Christmas Parade-The department's annual KidsFest which is held on Halloween at the Hughes Center has been canceled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Russellville Christmas Parade will not be held this year, however safer activities are being planned for the holiday season. Fireworks, a residential and commercial lighting contest, letters to Santa Claus, and a neighborhood visit from Santa Claus are just a few things being discussed.

Updates

A. M.J. Hickey Park Backstops-Barrett & Associates has completed the design phase on new backstops and covered score booths for Hickey Park fields 2, 3, 4, and 7. They are currently working on drainage for the project.

B. James School Park Bathrooms/Pavilion- Bob Hiegel of HTW Architects, Engineers, and Planners is working on the design phase for new restrooms at James Park. The pavilion will be quoted separately in hopes of getting a better price.

C. Leagues and Tournaments-The department's fall softball league began play on August 11 with 22 teams participating. AVSA will begin their league Saturday, September 19.

D. Monthly Report-The commissioners received a copy of the department's monthly report.

E. Upcoming Events-A schedule of upcoming events was given to the commissioners.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50pm.