

Ball Diamond Task Force Minutes
Monday, March 2, 2020 5:30 pm
Civic Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heyer, Langner, T. Miller, Nus, Petersen
MEMBERS ABSENT: Brittain, K. Miller
COUNCIL PRESENT: Rathe, Schneider (5:33)
STAFF PRESENT: Bronner, Riordan
VISITORS: Shayla McIntyre (5:45)

SUMMARY OF FORMAL ACTION: The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm by Chair, Langner.

Motion: To approve March 2, 2020 agenda as presented.

04-20 Moved: T. Miller Secoded: Petersen
Yes: 5 No: 0 Absent: 2

Motion: To approve Jan. 20, 2020 Minutes as presented.

05-20 Moved: T. Miller Secoded: Heyer
Yes: 5 No: 0 Absent: 2

Regular Business.

1. Meeting Dates

Meeting dates were once again discussed. At the Jan. 20 meeting it had been decided to have meetings on the 3rd Monday and on an as needed basis at 5:30 pm. Rathe has a scheduling conflict with 3rd Mondays going forward. Petersen commented that he also has a conflict with the 3rd Mondays going forward.

Motion: To set Ball Diamond Task Force Meeting dates and times as the 1st Monday of the Month at 5:30 pm.

06-20 Moved: Nus Secoded: Heyer
Yes: 5 No: 0 Absent: 2

2. Park Updates

Riordan began the park updates by giving a quick recap of the Public Meeting that was held on Jan. 30. After the meeting staff and the task force felt that it would be beneficial to speak to the adjacent property owners in smaller groups or 1 on 1. Riordan contacted each of the adjacent property owners as well as owners along Crestwood Ave. to invite them to come in and talk about their concerns. Some of the adjacent owners were OK with just speaking on the phone. Six property owners came in over the next week to speak with Riordan and Mike Cherry. Overall Riordan felt that the meetings went well. Staff was able to pinpoint concerns. The main concerns from these meetings included RV traffic on Crestwood Ave., water runoff, flooding, privacy, the size of the indoor batting cages building, and wildlife problems. Safety from home run and stray baseball and softballs was also a concern from the owner of 606 Crestwood Ave. Riordan reported that most of the adjacent owners he had spoken with would like a privacy fence installed, however he also met with a neighbor that wants to sit on her deck and watch the games. A privacy fence or other barrier is something that will be installed at the end of the project.

Riordan, Bronner, Cherry and 3 members of the task force met to discuss the north parking lot since that seems to be a topic of concern. It was stated that the indoor batting cages probably

won't be installed, or if they are installed it will be further down the road. It was decided to make the north parking lot smaller. There would still be a grass area for overflow parking if necessary. Schneider asked if there was even a need for the North parking lot. Staff and the members of the task force feel that there is a need for the North Parking lot otherwise there is the fear of people going to games on the north (premier field) will park on 3rd St. SE.

Riordan reported that the area for the Youth Ball Diamonds is actually 4 parcels, 2 of which are zoned A-1 and 2 are zoned R-2. The process is underway to have them all zoned as R-2. It has gone through the Planning and Zoning Commission and will now have 3 readings at Council Meetings. Bronner added that the reason for R-2 is that it makes more sense with the neighborhood. R-2 does not allow for apartment buildings, storage facilities, etc. If the project doesn't happen there are other options that the City could use R-2 for.

The process has also begun to combine the 4 parcels into 1. The plat of survey is on the March 5 Planning and Zoning Commission agenda.

Riordan received an Email from Hall & Hall just before the meeting that stated they were close to being able to send out bids for grading, utilities, erosion control, and surface restoration plans.

They will be meeting with staff in the next couple of weeks. Langner asked how in kind bids would be handled. Riordan will check with Hall & Hall. Most of the in kind bids should be coming for the above ground infrastructure. Rathe asked about a time line as to when dirt would start moving. Bronner said we would know more after we meet with Hall & Hall in the next couple of weeks.

3. Capital Campaign

Langner said that there is a company and individual that has volunteered to help with website designs. T. Miller offered to help get content for the page.

Riordan and Langner met with Northeast Iowa Community Foundation to set up an account for donations.

Staff Report:

Chair Report:

Reports and Communications: It was pointed out that in one of the latest concept drawings that it looked like the Miracle League Field had stadium seating. Riordan will check with Hall & Hall on this.

Next Meeting:

Apr. 6, 2020 5:30 PM Civic Center

Adjournment:

Motion: To Adjourn

07-20

Yes: 5

Moved: Petersen

No: 0

Seconded: Nus

Absent: 2

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Garret Riordan
Commission Secretary
Leisure Services Director