

Ball Diamond Task Force Minutes
Monday, Aug. 19, 2019 5:30 pm
Civic Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brittain, Heyer, Langner, K. Miller, T. Miller, Nus, Petersen
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
COUNCIL PRESENT: Rathe (5:33), Mayor Soash
STAFF PRESENT: Bronner, Riordan
VISITORS: None

SUMMARY OF FORMAL ACTION: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair, Langner.

Motion: To approve Aug. 19, 2019 agenda as presented.

07-19 Moved: T. Miller Seconded: K. Miller
Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0

Motion: To approve Aug. 4, 2019 Minutes as presented. (Correction to Aug. 4 Minutes, preschool, kindergarten and 1st grade are currently in Shell Rock, not 2nd – 3rd grade)

08-19 Moved: Brittain Seconded: K. Miller
Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0

Regular Business

1. One Phase or Multiple Phase Project

Langner suggested if the group decides to go with multiple phases, phase 1 could be one or two clovers of fields and a Miracle Field. Bronner wondered how many fields are needed. Currently there are 3 at Memorial park, 3 at Kiwanis, 3 in Shell Rock, 7 on the proposed layout. It was mentioned that 2 diamonds in Shell Rock are good and the 3rd is only used for Pre Kindergarten. Brittain stated that if phases were going to be done, it may be possible to do 2 baseball and 2 softball diamonds with a Miracle Field in the middle. Phase 2 could be the opportunity to add 1 more of each baseball and softball fields. Rathe agreed, if the City could start phase 1 people will see that it's happening and be more likely to donate. Petersen asked where the 13u and 14u currently play. Langner responded that they currently play at Memorial Park. Petersen wondered if there could be improvements at the Memorial Park diamonds as the same time as phase 1. Langner responded that with the fair still occupying the same ground along with Heritage Days, it wouldn't possible to build diamonds with permanent fences. It was determined that the project should consist of multiple phases.

2. Advantages/Disadvantages of site North of Soccer Complex and Champions Ridge Site

Brittain mentioned the location of the site North of the Soccer Complex as an advantage. He said players may not ride their bikes or walk to practices or games, but their families do. Mayor Soash presented a petition from 2006 which had 850 signatures from citizens who were in favor of ball diamonds in the area North of the Soccer Complex and 212 signatures opposed. Langner read the petition out loud along with the advantages that were listed. Most have not changed. K. Miller wondered if having the ball diamonds at the site North of the soccer complex would affect the fair and their plans for Champions Ridge. Bronner stated that the fair could still use the Champions Ridge land. One disadvantage of the Champions Ridge land is the cost that will be incurred just to level it. Depending on where the diamonds would go on that

land there would also be a cost for a road, lift station, etc. Another disadvantage of the Champions Ridge land is the name will always be associated with the project.

3. Determine Site for Youth Baseball & Softball Fields

T. Miller stated that the advantages to having the ball diamonds at the site North of the Soccer Complex have been determined. No formal action was taken.

Staff Report:

Rathe wondered where funding would come from. Bronner stated some grant opportunities may be possible along with future budgeted funds.

Chair Report:

Langner suggested the group start thinking about fund raising and campaigning and what it would look like. Possible naming rights to diamonds.

Next Meeting:

Sept. 9, 2019 5:30 PM Civic Center

Adjournment:

Motion: To Adjourn

09-19

Moved: Petersen

Seconded: T. Miller

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Garret Riordan
Commission Secretary
Leisure Services Director