

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 6, 2023

Heather Carmona, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at 851 South Eton.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heather Carmona
Susan Collins
Jessica Einstein
Pam Graham
Anne Lipp
John Rusche
Steve Sweeney

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Archie Reynolds, Seaholm High School

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT: Katie Glasier, Seaholm High School

ADMINISTRATION: Carrie A. Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager
Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator

GUESTS: Sarah Kupczyk (arrived @ 6:31pm) and David Young

ANNOUNCEMENTS, INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS & CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS:

Carmona shared with the Parks and Recreation Board the 2023 In the Parks Concert Series.

Collins stated on behalf of the Collin's family and skating community we wanted to thank the City of Birmingham along with Connie who is really the heart of the Birmingham Ice Arena for bringing back the beloved ice show this year. The Birmingham Ice Show had not occurred in three years.

Collins stated that the Birmingham Ice Show has very deep roots in this community. The ice show has been going on for over 30 years, the skaters look forward to it every year and the skaters start working on their programs in September. This is not a here we go and a month later we start a show. Collins stated that Brenna Sandles was this year's Ice Show Director and did a phenomenal job and started working on the ice show in September. Graduating seniors are highlighted and are able to have a senior solo and look forward to this from the time they are in Kindergarten.

Collins wanted to say thank you and we understand the amount of creativity, work and planning that the city puts into the show. Brenna Sandles did a fantastic job and Connie really is the force that pulls it all together. Collins went on to say that our new ice arena is beautiful, but its culture set by our rink manager that makes it special. Collins said thank you so much to city council and everybody who had anything to do with our new ice arena and getting the Ice Show back on board.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

No Public Comments

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved by Graham, seconded by Collins, to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, May 2, 2023, regular meeting as submitted.

Ayes, Heather Carmona, Susan Collins,
Jessica Einstein, Pam Graham, Anne Lipp,
John Rusche and Steve Sweeney

Nays, None

Absent, None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Sweeney asked about dandelions in the City of Birmingham parks and how the city handles the control of the dandelions.

PM Laird stated that the city treats areas that are not highly trafficked by the public such as Woodward medians and smaller islands. PM Laird stated for the park systems the city it's not a routine application because of the parks being used by a lot of people and also pets.

Kupczyk stated that at the State House of Representatives there is a possibility for a bill to be approved where they would reinstate having adult changing tables in certain places.

NEW BUSINESS:

Parks and Recreation Master Plan-(verbal)

PM Laird stated that City staff met with McKenna and will be meeting on a regular basis.

PM Laird stated that McKenna will be having community engagements for the month of June, July, August and September at various community events. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan will be an agenda item on future Parks and Recreation Board Agenda.

PM Laird asked the Parks and Recreation Board who would be available for park tours with staff and McKenna. There was discussion between the Parks and Recreation Board and three members choose tours Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS:

PM Laird shared an email received from Bob Gibbs as it relates to the Booth Park walkway.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

1. Parks and Recreation Board Roster

RC Folk presented the Parks and Recreation Board Roster

2. Project Updates:

a. Crestview Park Pickleball

PM Laird informed the board that the pickleball courts are being well utilized.

b. Ground Water Energy Passive System (GEPS)

PM Laird stated that the city is satisfied with the results and should be considered as an option as the city moves forward on park development and is looking as different ways to be sustainable and eliminate the wet conditions. We should consider this as an option as it's maintenance free.

PM Laird stated that she could have the company look at Barnum Park to see if this system could be used.

3. Lincoln Hills Irrigation:

PM Laird stated that the irrigation was damaged at Lincoln Hills and also at the dog park and should be repaired soon.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

Carmona stated the next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 6:30 pm, at 851 South Eton.

Chair Carmona adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm

Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator