



508 North Lincoln ♦ Cabot, AR 72023 ♦ 501-605-1506 ♦ www.cabotparks.com

Cabot Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

October 16, 2018

Cabot Veterans Park Events Center

508 North Lincoln, Cabot, Arkansas 72023

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

John C. Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Present: John C. Thompson, Mike Burchfield, Matt Moudy, Nick Whitaker, Eric Park, Greg Sled

Absent: Maggie Cope

Guest: Greg Crumpton

II. Minutes of Regular Meeting

The minutes from the regular meeting held September 18, 2018 were presented. **NICK WHITAKER MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY MATT MOUDY. ALL VOTED AYE.**

III. Financials

September 2018 financials were discussed. Concessions and gate short \$26,000; have been running \$10,000 over per month, for a total of \$46,000. One of the rainiest years to date. Player insurance- scheduled to come out in October- payment made in September. Year to date- good on budget. Membership numbers strong. **NICK WHITAKER MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE AUGUST 2018 FINANCIALS AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY MIKE BURCHFIELD. ALL VOTED AYE.**

IV. Programs

Programs Director Lorenzo Mendoza presented for programs. Fall sports will end on 10/22. Sports were set to end 10/15 but did not due to inclement/ rainy weather. Baseball and softball will end 10/22. Volleyball has last regular season matches 10/20. Volleyball end of the season tournament- 10/22,10/23,10/25. Volleyball championship matches- 10/27. Youth wrestling registrations ended 10/15- still accepting late registrations. Wrestling registrants to date- 55. Last season- 51 registrants including late sign ups. New wrestling mat with panther head delivered to high school. Basketball registrants to date- 240. Programs Director Lorenzo Mendoza and Parks Director Travis Young met with American Legion to follow up on the creation of an older age division. Agreement made- Parks and Recreation will continue to run the programs we have; American Legion will continue with their mission to possibly have more than two teams. Cabot Parks and Recreation currently runs a good program.

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BMX presented. Semi-finals held in Bald Knob. Cabot hopes to have semi-finals and Gold Cup Qualifier next calendar year. Two large races should bring in 25-30 motos (150 riders). New board member vote will be held 11/3 per BMX by laws. Introduction to new board member will be at November Commission Meeting. Ideal to have more races this season. Around Thanksgiving, the season will end until around January. First week of January are internationals. Commissioner Whitaker inquired as to when the soil tact was purchased for BMX. Soil tact purchased in 2017, but will not expire. Dry conditions are required for soil tact placement.

Eric Vest presented for CYFA. New board member will be voted in on 11/14. 11/10 - Super bowl at Cabot High School. First weekend in November- playoff games at CYFA fields. 10/27 - last regularly scheduled game. Complaint from previous weekend was discussed. Mr. Vest presented a report to the Commission made by referee Willy (one of the referees from the incidental game in question). Parks Director Young has received Kelly's report. Report pertains to a "white hat" referee on the field, game night. Willy's report was received 10/15 and presented to commission on 10/16.

Flag Football and Cheer not present. Per contractual agreement, both associations are to attend each Commission Meeting. According to contractual agreement, if the associations do not attend they are subject to offense violations. First offense- written statement by Cabot Parks and Recreation; Second offense- meeting with the Commission; Third offense- breach of contract. Programs Director Mendoza to write and present first offense statement 10/17.

Commissioner Burchfield inquired about temperature requirements for BMX soil tact treatment/chemicals. The temperature can be as low as 40 degrees.

V. Construction/Facility Updates

Flag football fields- 4 fields are within 1/10 of grade; waiting to compact roll top soil. Machines are on site to roll fields. Weather must be dry. While they are rolling the last field, they will shape up the remaining top soil. 125 feet of drainage pipe was added to fix a swell caused by natural drainage. Rock base and 18-inch concrete culvert added.

Project list- excess money budgeted for end of the year will go towards items listed on tentative five-year plan. Start dates and quotes provided. Quotes were under \$20,000 (per state requirements- no bid necessary). 4 quotes retrieved. Community Center paint project will start 10/22; flooring project to begin the week of 10/29. Softball restrooms will be painted. New

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urinals and toilets will be installed at softball complex. Current fixtures are outdated. Back stop poll and netting-waiting on pricing for block layers. TBD. Maintenance has worked hard to help complete demolition tasks. Maintenance shop to be completed.

VI. Old Business

None.

VII. New Business

Maintenance shop. Parks Director Young thanked Commissioner Thompson for putting him in contact with Pinnacle. To eliminate unnecessary driving and work, a maintenance shop is to be erected at the 321 Sports Complex. Future expansion will more than likely be at the 321 Sports Complex. The current maintenance facility is a pop-up barn. New facility would be 40 x 60. \$18,000 price includes everything, but two roll up doors. Maintenance superintendent approved. An additional \$4000 would be required to add an additional 40 X 20 section. Commission approval requested, as facility will be purchased through a local vendor. Formal quotes unnecessary, as building falls below the state minimum. Commission Attorney Greg Crumpton affirmed state minimum and by law requirements. No motion necessary. Electric power poll and meter on site. Additional expense associated with maintenance shop- inclusion of bathroom and stall shower. Commissioner Thompson inquired on status and future pertaining to current 321 maintenance shop. The intention is to sell and attempt to recuperate expenditures.

Arguments presented for field dry inclusion. \$50,000 per year spent on field dry. When baseball and softball games are cancelled, Parks and Recreation loses around \$5,000 in revenue per night. Commissioner Whitaker inquired about costs associated with maintenance labor and overtime pay for each weather with inclement weather. Per Parks Director Young, \$1.3 million is a large expenditure, but because of associated maintenance fees the number is not as overwhelming. Sports turf would eliminate the need for additional laboring employees. Commissioner Park inquired about how many games sports turf will really change. If it is really raining, no one is playing on sports turf either. However, sports turf will help alleviate the elimination of Cabot tournaments related to inclement weather. On average, Parks and Recreation can lose up to 10 league games per season. Commissioner Park asked, "of those 10, how many of those games will you really recuperate?" Baseball and softball will play through the rain, if there is no thunder or lightning in the area. Currently, games are not played on Cabot fields in the rain because they are dirt. Sports turf would provide the opportunity to play

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often. Profits lost on rained out large tournaments can be as much as \$15,000. Commissioner Moudy, “if we do not put turf down, we will be completely left behind by every city around us.” Sports turf will bring in more participants on weekends with the possibility of rain, as the likelihood of the games being cancelled significantly decreases. Per Commissioner Whitaker, “are we in the business now, where we are trying to generate revenues from this to the point, where we say I does not make money, we aren’t going to do it?” “Are we offering a service to our community?” Sports turf would be for the old 4-plex at softball and not new fields. Commissioner Moudy inquired as to whether Parks Director Young has taken this topic to A&P. No. In March 2019, we currently have two tournaments scheduled, with the possibility of turf, Parks could have four tournaments. Sports turf would be placed on just infields. Commissioner Park states his opinion on maintenance variables. Maintenance costs may not necessarily decrease overall costs, because maintenance will only shift to different costs in labor and materials. Per Parks Director Young – ideal time frame for turf life would be 10-12 years per field. The current 4-plex at softball does not go under water. The turf would have pellets, but the pellets are buried within the turf. Commissioner Park, “you are turning the softball/ baseball field into a giant French drain- where the water is percolating through and then will drain off somewhere else.” Parks Director Young, “Yes.” Commissioner Park, “how is this going to work at Allman, because that facility does not drain?” Parks Director Young, “that is a good question and I cannot answer that; however, I can say that it drains better now that we have worked with the core to get things done downstream.” Commissioner Thompson, “are we going to lose out because of lack of hotels?” Traveling teams will not travel unless they are playing on turf. Restaurants are what they are more inclined to need. Fiscally Parks and Recreation cannot afford a note of \$1.3 million dollars. Per Parks and Recreation Director Young “when I originally came to Cabot Parks and Recreation, the City was giving us \$350,000; Tax revenue has not gone down, so now is a good time to press City Council and the Mayor to re-increase us to \$350,000.” If the City were to re-increase, then it would automatically cover \$7,000. Per Parks Director Young, this project requires a three-part endeavor- city, A& P, and Cabot Parks and Recreation. The city owes Parks money from Shell project- \$160,000 +. Per Parks Director Young a comment was made earlier (10/16) by an individual on A&P in regards to Parks and Recreation and what they are paying us. Per Director Young the comment of “some of the money given should be taken away from Cabot Parks and Recreation,” was made. Tournaments are mostly economic boosts to the facility. Cost of concessions is what has gone up. CPR makes 35-40% on a good year, whereas historically it was at 75%. Commissioner Park, “the city should help build this.” As the revenue for the city has gone up, CPR funding has not. The goal is to present to the mayor and city council, why it is imperative CPR receive more

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funding, as it is not a self-sustainable entity. CPR currently runs at 60%, well above the national average of 25-30%. Commissioner Thompson suggests that Parks Director Young gather further data and information to present to the city council and acting mayor. Supply and demand warrants the need for increased funding and sports field maintenance. Economic impact formula necessary to justify CPR needs.

Budget Committee- Historically we have had a budget committee. Budget cannot be set until city sets there budget. Volunteers required for committee. Commissioner Thompson indicated he would be present for it, but would not be an acting committee member, as it would be a conflict of interest for the chairman to preside and vote on the board. Commissioners Whitaker, Cope, and Moudy will preside over committee. CPR Business Manager, Stacy Williams, will assist Parks Director Young in gathering actuals and numbers.

Skate Park- vandalism and graffiti have gotten out of hand at park. Question now remains of what to do, if behavior continues. Parks Director Young has taken steps to make the Skate Park a safer area, with the addition of new lighting. Additional signage and cameras will be added to Skate Park. Documentation of current and future issues will be recorded and used as reference.

November Commission Meeting moved to 11/27 at 6:30 pm.

Parks Director Young will be on vacation 10/19 and three days in November.

VIII. Community Input

None.

IX. Adjournment

ADJOURNED AT 7:30 pm.

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned Chairman, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission October 16, 2018.

Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman

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