

Sherwood Parks & Recreation Meeting
August 14, 2023
6:00 pm

The Sherwood Parks and Recreation Committee met for their monthly meeting on August 14, 2023. Charlie Harmon called the meeting to order. Committee members present: Charlie Harmon, Mike Sanders, Scott Gann, Shelby Thomas and Leonard Smith. Absent: Denny Tipton and Bruce Mason. Also in attendance: Blake Calloway, Mayor Mary Jo Heye-Townsell, Josh Alexander, Tonya Bell and Dianna Price.

Minutes:

June 12, 2023 minutes were read for approval. Scott Gann made the motion to approve the June 12th minutes. Leonard Smith seconded the motion. Charlie Harmon, Mike Sanders, Scott Gann, Shelby Thomas and Leonard Smith unanimously approved the motion.

New Business:

Greens at North Hills Lease Agreement – Josh Alexander, economic developer, told the committee the mayor asked him to find ways that the city can become efficient and increase the revenue stream. One of the things that came up was the current lease agreement with Joey’s Bar and Grill, which technically ends September 10th but has been extended to December 31st. Josh said in the past six years they’ve discovered they could do better with the lease agreement they currently have, adding some teeth about maintaining the hours of operation, cleanliness standards, maintenance of the facility, etc. As we go looking at potential new tenants those are some the items the agreement will include. Currently the current tenant is paying \$4.01 a square foot that’s about \$6.50 below fair market rate. We can’t continue to go on that path. Josh has showed the restaurant space to numerous restauraners that has called him looking for space in Sherwood. He has showed it to four and two have come back wanting to make an offer right now. Josh wants to open this up to a formal bid process. He would like to proceed down this path and come back to the committee possibly next month with a full package for them to review with no names, only facts and numbers. He asked the committee for their permission to do so. Mike Sanders made the motion for Josh Alexander to move forward with the formal bid process. Leonard Smith seconded the motion. Charlie Harmon, Mike Sanders, Scott Gann, Shelby Thomas and Leonard Smith unanimously approved the motion.

Miller Park Potential Planning – Blake Calloway said the last year or so, there has been talk of what to do with Miller Park. The potential of having a nature trail or mountain biking trail always seems to come up. He believes there is an individual that can walk the property and come up with a design. This is very similar to what we did with the disc golf. We are looking at going the same route. The mayor contacted Daniel Lysk who is into mountain biking and asked him to look at this plot of land and tell her if has potential for mountain biking. He said it would be good for mountain biking trail. We could do this inexpensively for next year’s budget. This could bring in a new amenity to the city.

Old Business:

Project Updates:

City Hall Park – They have started installing the electricity for lighting and marking for the trail in front of city hall and the police department. There should be a trail down relatively soon. The mayor is hoping to have some rocky statues in the park. There is a gentleman out of Greenwood that will be looking in quarries to see if they can be built. They are also looking for large rocks that people can sit on along the trail. Benches have been ordered. The mayor has been talking to an artist and they should be getting a rendering on the courtyard.

Indianhead Park – Blake said as far as the courts are concerned, they are just about done. There is a punch list of items for the company. Some of the fencing will need to be replaced. The type of light switches needs to be changed to a button type that you push for the lights to come on. They will be

similar to the ones at Henson. The pad is poured for the pavilion. The restroom foundation will be poured next week. The mayor said that Darren Austin had applied and had gotten a grant for a walking trail that she knew nothing about. This is 20/80 grant; our cost should be around \$10,000 total including engineering. This trail will connect two streets to it. People won't have to take the sidewalks. Blake said this is a great thing.

Henson Park – Blake said they are lacking fences; they have hefty punch list to go through. There are some humps in the tennis courts. The fencing should be completed Friday. The courts are staying full. Paddle racks and benches have been ordered. They are also looking to expand the parking lot.

Sports Complex Restrooms Complete – Blake said the restrooms that were supposed to be completed by opening day are done now. Blake said Sean is a bulldog and stayed on them. Sean knows cabinetry and maintenance and with him not doing the work their punch list was extensive. The mayor said there were things she and Blake didn't notice but Sean did. Blake said his detail was amazing.

Programming Update:

Sherwood Volley – Blake said the registration is about to come to a close, last Friday they had a hundred kids signed up. Blake talked to the director and she's enthusiastic about it. They will have evaluations Saturday and start playing soon.

Tennis Center – Blake said he had been looking at the revenue numbers for the tennis center. In 2020 the revenue \$4,833.00, 2021 - \$13,096.00, 2022 - \$7,023.25. Blake wanted them to know that we have already passed the revenue in three years, the amount this year is \$27,291.00 to date. We have surpassed the last three years. Blake said between Tonya and Alex and the push to have programming out at the complex. Tonya Bell said there are several programs and leagues going on and summer camps.

Blake said there was not a budget for tennis or the youth center. It is coming out the parks and rec budget. They did not have the tools for these programs. We sat down with them and figured out what they needed and wanted for these programs. We will meet and discuss budget items. The mayor said parks and rec is highly motivated.

Baseball/Softball Committee – Blake said they have met twice. They have narrowed some of the discussion points down, how do we get people in our park, how we strengthen our program and facilities have come up. We have to change the reputation of the Sylvan Hill Athletic Club, by doing this the city will be working with them hand to hand. We will modify some of the things they have done in the past. The city will take some of the scheduling control. Looking at the city taking some of the concessions off them such as the tournaments and high school games. Unless its SHAC sponsored the city will take it over. Get the facilities upgraded.

Josh Alexander said he has been working with Korey Malloy and they are having Movie at the Ballpark. They will be showing the first world series game on the blowup big screen, which falls on a Friday night. You can bring a tent, sleeping bag, etc. and they will follow up showing a movie like the Sand Lot or the Field of Dreams.

With no further business, Shelby Thomas made the motion to adjourn.

Charles S. Harmon
Charlie Harmon

Attest: Dianna Price