Minutes of the Parks Subcommittee
Of the City of Concordia, Missouri
Held on January 14, 2025
Beginning at 5:30 P.M.
Room 202, Concordia Community Center
802 Gordon St.
Concordia, Missouri

Members in Attendance:	Members Absent
Karol Meyer	Beth Kruse, Alderman Liaison
Roxanne Nierman	
Beth Maggert (via phone)	
Michael Brown, Mayor	

Also in Attendance
Jordon Schlueter, Parks Maintenance
Dale Klussman, City Administrator

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order.

The Mayor introduced Roxanne Nierman, who has recently been appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Board of Aldermen to fill the term of Mischeal Stauch on this committee.

The minutes of the November 12, 2024, Parks Committee meeting were reviewed. Upon review, Karol made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Roxanne seconded this motion. The vote was taken with the vote registered 3/0. Motion carried.

Klussman reported that the new playground equipment is completely installed, and we are ready for a final inspection. The area housing the equipment which replaced the non-compliant slide, swings and rocking features is coming along, before the change in the weather, the company dug and filled the holes to which the new items will be anchored.

There is another truckload of rubber mulch needed to complete the fall area in this region. This truckload and the on-site mulch will also be used to raise the compacted fall material of the new playground area to proper depth.

Klussman stated that we should budget for additional truckloads of mulch over the next few years to ensure we maintain proper depths of fall materials, as this rubberized mulch does compress.

Klussman led the discussion concerning the sidewalk which will be constructed into the new playground area. City Engineer Tim Crockett recommends that the most appropriate positioning of a new sidewalk would be north of the shelter along Missouri Highway 23 and

suggested “flattening” a few parking spots in this area to better provide for ADA parking and access.

The sidewalk would run east of the shelter and over the walking trail creating an enlarged landing area on the south end of the playground area. This would provide an area where benches and landscaping could be placed to provide seating for family members while children are playing.

We will be creating proper specifications for the construction of this sidewalk and parking area with hopes of placing it for bids for construction in late-March/early April.

Klussman reported that the Chamber has approached the Board of Aldermen and has received initial permission to place a “Welcome to Concordia” sign, similar in construction to the north sign.

The Chamber has discussed potential incorporation of digital message board in this sign. Karol expressed her concern about cost and future maintenance costs associated with a digital message board, based on the experience of St. Paul’s Elementary School.

Roxanne agreed that she too was concerned about future maintenance costs related to this style of sign.

Beth stated that she preferred the digital message board, as it was more visible and better relayed the message that the user was wanting displayed.

Karol made a motion to recommend that the Board of Aldermen recommend to the Chamber a design to the South welcome center which did not include a digital message center, due to the initial cost of such center, but more related to future maintenance costs of the center.

Roxanne seconded the motion. Mayor Brown requested a vote on this motion, which was recorded as 2 members in favor of the motion and 1 member opposed. Mayor Brown declared the motion passed.

Mayor Brown requested a report on the status of the location of a pickleball court. Klussman stated that Aaron Marsh did visit the Cole Camp location, which utilized the court over an existing asphalt basketball court. Marsh expressed concerns that this prefabricated top would require a new asphalt base below the court to assure that no pre-existing flaws in the asphalt would create a liability.

This court did not have the additional features as described by the people who approached the Board of Aldermen that they would like to see in a facility. The price that was quoted for construction of the court at Cole Camp was for the surface only.

We would require fencing, lighting and restroom facilities to meet the criteria given to the Board.

Brown suggested potential placement of courts at St. Paul's Lutheran High School. Klussman stated that it was his understanding that the school was approached and showed little interest in housing the court.

The Committee members expressed concern that future number of pickleball players may drastically decline.

This leads to locating a court west of the Community Center. We could look at pouring proper-sized asphalt pads and directly paint the lines with approved "pickleball paint". We could discuss potential construction of "temporary fencing" to address chasing pickleballs. We have access to the restrooms within the Community Center and a parking area is available. Additional lighting may be installed, as the west lot does need lighting if and when it becomes a parking area for this or future Community Centers.

If pickleball participation stops, this area could easily be converted into additional parking for the Community Center. If pickleball participation increases, there is room for additional courts in this area.

If we were to locate courts in this area, we must consider neighboring properties and the residents in this area.

Jordan reported that the fall seeding and fertilizing programs for Central Park has been completed. He also stated that he has received requests from people that the Park Board consider converting the Ag-Lime walking trail at Southside Park to another type of surface.

Roxanne and Karol agreed that the Ag-Lime surface is easier on the joints than concrete, however they did recognize the limitations of Ag-Lime concerning retainage of moisture. Karol stated that for the near future and until we could afford a better (concrete base with rubberized topcoat) surface, she felt that we should continue using Ag-Lime for the walking trail at Southside Park. Karol placed this as a motion, which was seconded by Beth and passed by unanimous consent 3/0.

Karol asked about the design of the restroom at Southside Park. Dale stated that he has discussed the design with Tim Crockett, as Tim will be heading up the design team. He will follow up on the status of this project.

There being no further business before the Committee, Karol made the motion to adjourn, with Beth seconding this motion. The vote was recorded, 3/0.

Meeting adjourned.

Time Noted: 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dale Klussman, Person appointed to take Minutes