**Colfax Park and Recreation Auxiliary Board**

**March 16, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

# Attendees & Guests

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Doug Garrett | Greg Rhames | Darla Edwards |
| Danae Edwards | Dave Mast | Wes Snyder |
| Kyle Amendt | Kent Deal | Jenna Teed |
| Pete Parvi | Kim Seebeck | Patrick Teed |
| Connor Jones | Linda Darrock | Mark Graham |
| Shannon Harding | Linda Boddicker | Steve Kono |
|  | Kathy Dickerson |  |

# Topics for Discussion

**Agenda Approval –** Motion made by Kent Deal to approve agenda. 2nd by Linda Darrock. Motion approved.

**Approval of Financials – 2/24/16 through 3/17/16**

* Savings:
  + Interest Income: $42.18
  + Balance: $160,441.83
* Checking:
  + Incomes:
    - Interest Income: $0.47
  + Expenses:
    - Confluence: $3,910.08
    - Mid-American Energy: $41.06
  + Balance: $3,719.06

Updated officer changes and business addresses had been made with the secretary of state. Please be sure to label expenses, and particularly if they’re related to a certain grant. We must remain accountable. Further discussion regarding the REAP grants and others, and how labor or volunteer hours are handled in accordance with matching funds.

Doug has kept track of volunteer hours typically, but with recent workdays and going forward, all individuals need to keep track of their volunteer hours at the park. Board members or officers should keep track of actual hours performed as a board member or officer.

Motion to approve financials made by Kim Seebeck. 2nd by Kent Deal. Motion approved.

**Meeting Minutes:** Approval of Minutes from February 24, 2016 meeting. Motion by Linda Darrock. 2nd by Greg Rhames. Motion approved.

**Committee Reports**

**● Nominating Committee –** Kent nominates Pete Parvi for a position on the board. 2nd by Linda Darrock. Motion approved.

**Promotions Committee (Park Name & Logo Creation) -** Connor reported the committee is working on park opening information for the website and social media. The traffic is increasing on social media and there are currently 459 likes on the Facebook page. All present are encouraged to share. Connor further reported the biggest thing on their plate is getting stuff ready for park opening. Regarding the park’s name, Connor indicated, as a result of the previous naming contest, the top four names were “Spring City” “James Norman Hall” “Colfax Springs” and “Herschel F. Briles.” Common phrases among the suggested names were “springs” and or “spring city” and “quarry.” Although the winner of the contest was “Spring City,” the outcome of the contest did not operate to officially select a name for the park. Connor indicated he would email the findings or results from the previous contest. Darla Edwards expressed a concern about the use of the word “city” in the park’s name. Some attendees were not prepared to vote on the official name at this evening’s meeting. It was suggested that selecting an official name could be added to the agenda of the April 6th meeting. All were advised that if that were the case, they should be prepared to vote on that occasion, and to bring forward ideas concerning a logo. Don Edwards moved to address the park’s official name at the April 6, 2016, meeting. Greg Rhames seconded. Motion approved.

* **Steering Committee (Update on Confluence Design) –** Kim handed out the latest copy of Option 3 provided by Confluence – a combination of Options 1 & 2 following the March 2nd meeting with Confluence. Kim reviewed the visual handout with the attendees and guests briefly. Discussion was had regarding the Option amongst all attendees, in particular, access was considered. Doug reported ISU in Newton contacted him about bee farm and butterfly habitat possibilities. Ideas related to the shooting range were discussed specifically. A guest asked if Option 3 is a “25 year plan?” It was explained that this is a long term plan. We do not have specific year-based plans at this point. Another guest recommended selling shares or monthly or yearly fees for the public to use the lakes for fishing. Kyle spoke to that issue because accepting fees affects our ability to obtain grant monies. Kim explained we’re looking at revenue streams that are self-sustaining. Greg reported that in the short term we’re looking to develop camping, and there is interest in RV camping even if we don’t have the appropriate facilities available at this point. A guest asked if there would be a bait shop there. Kyle said it’d be an easy add on. Doug explained we’re open to concessions but we don’t have plans for opening that up yet. Discussions were had re Corralville and Honey Creek. Darla noted that once the RVs leave in the winter, we’ll need to have a different revenue stream that works in the winter. Doug noted we’d like to eventually see an event center that would hold 300-400 people, resulting in rental fees earned. Kathy asked about swimming, kayaking, et cetera on all lakes. Immediate plans call for a beach on the public lake; kayaking and no wake boating were to be offered in others. It was noted that bathhouses will be needed for RV and campers as soon as possible, but that’s expensive infrastructure. Kim asks if Option 3 can be posted on the website and discussion ensued. Doug wants to wait until it’s presented to the historical society. We’ll have to note it is conceptual and long range whenever it is shared. Posting it would be a good marketing opportunity when it happens, offered Kent. Greg Rhames asked if we’re only posting it on our website and Connor asked whether we should put it on FB and social media, or should we have a public meeting first. Doug suggested we get feedback from Confluence. A guest asked about boating on the public lake – it was expressed that at least for this summer, we’re not including any boats with motors at this time. Kayaks or canoes will happen however. It was noted that the Fishing Club concept decision has to been made, and that could result in future changes. Nonetheless, fishing from shore is certain on the public lake.
* **Finance Committee –** Dave Mast updated the board on the issue of park insurance. Last year only one pole and block building were required to be insured. April 1st marks the date insurance will cover all three buildings. Dave spoke with Stayner Insurance representatives when they came into City Hall for an insurance review. Ultimately, the deductible was changed to allow us to save more on insurance premiums. It was further noted that camping will only be covered for one weekend as an event under the current policy. So, Dave advised, if we’re doing camping, we need to get the details worked out, and get the park marked “No alcohol” before any camping can happen. Finally, Dave reported the park Rules and Regulations were presented recently and passed the first reading of the ordinance. The second reading will occur next month, and there are efforts to waive the typical third reading. Doug Garrett provided an update regarding the Jasper Community Foundation Grant – originally we’d sought $3k for electronic equipment and office equipment. Doug was approached about applying for the grant while at the Democratic Convention recently and was encouraged to increase the requested $3k to $6k.So Doug would like to amend the grant request to $6k. Linda Darrock moved to allow for that amendment to the grant; Danae Edwards seconded. Motion approved.
* **Operations/Planning Committee (Park Opening & Staffing) –** Don reported 17 volunteers were present last weekend. The volunteer work performed included cleaning slabs, configuring the pump, working on the road and ramp behind Kum & Go and the bus barn. Further, volunteers cleaned, cut and burned the SW corner of island, pipe has been moved, garbage receptacles were painted, and wood was piled in front of the block building to be split at a future date. Don also noted several individuals were out there this evening before the meeting taking down transformers and poles. It really looks different. Doug says there were 5 transformers down off the poles; the City will store them. They’re worth money so it is hoped they can be sold for the park’s benefit. Don indicated cleaning efforts will continue on the SW corner of the island, as will removal of the remainder of black pipe and work on the ramp and road. Additionally, Don reported that George Dickerson was out last weekend, doing a lot of grading. He recommended getting some rip rap over there, about four pickups worth. The cost is $1800 for the needed materials. That price includes the rock and the transport. Don would like to see this done. Can erosion be halted by seeding, asked Kyle, and discussion ensued. Don then handed out a cost sheet for various items needed in order to run electricity from the west end of block building to the east end where there is a pump that will get water over to the weigh station. The materials needed will cost $224.47. Labor would be donated. On the backside of the handout was a diagram of the weigh station. Moving on, Don noted that a couple weeks ago tent camping and RV camping had been talked about. Mike Brown came out to the park and offered his advice regarding RV sites and facilities. Further ideas were offered by Tom Wilson of MidAmerican and George Dickerson, and Don is going to try to have a further meeting about the topic. George estimated $15k to run all electrical for RV camping. A west end dump tank would cost between $4.5k to $5k, and running drinkable water would cost approximately $12 per foot. It was noted that we need to get water over to the block building. The water is not drinkable or potable water.Doug reported there are two wells out there and he’s seeking answers to their locations and viability. Dave Mast reported the City has not ruled out the use of private wells if they’ve been tested, et cetera. Don is going to have a meeting with Bob Rhone and others about this stuff – haven’t set it up yet because Tom Wilson is traveling so much and is not always available. Further discussion was had about camping and whether it starts with the soft opening. But that is up in the air because the insurance question needs to be worked out first. Discussion was then had regarding the May 1 soft opening date – any future hard opening would involve advertising. May 1 soft open will allow fishing and walking the trails. It was suggested that this should be discussed further at the April meeting. Don noted that volunteers will be working this Saturday from 9am to 1pm. The discussion returned to Don’s handout: while Greg Rhames doesn’t disagree with slowing down regarding the repairs needed for the block building bathrooms, the bottom section of Don’s handout – lighting and electricity , specifically – needs to be moved on. Kent Deal moved to adopt second half of handout allowing for certain lighting and electrical repairs to the block building; Greg seconded. Motion approved.

**Camping/Fees** - Greg shared a large scale depiction of the public lake and island area. He described the 7 campsites that have been prepped thus far. It is the general opinion that 10 to 12 sites could be created in total. They’re primitive: a cleared space with a fire ring and place to park. Very, very basic. City ordinance allows fire in fire rings and discussion was had about maintaining those. 5 old picnic tables may be available as well from Bob Rhone. Next steps to consider regarding camping are fees, payment, reservations. A fee of $10-15 for the primitive campsites was discussed. Self-contained RV camping could be charged the same fee. Shannon recommends this subject be added to a future agenda.

**Kyle Ament re the limit on largemouth bass.** Kyle explained a change in limits from 15” to 18” would protect a lot of the bass in the lake. He would like permission from board to begin the process for implementing such a change, explaining there is a required rule change when deviating from the typical 15” limit. He clarified the proposed change would only apply to our lake. Kyle so moved; Kathy seconded. Motion approved.

**Precision Pipeline Lease** – Doug Garrett reported that has not yet heard anything back from his contact after the recent pipeline vote, but he’ll keep us updated.

**Fundraising Projects –** Doug noted a fishing tournament would be covered by insurance and so it needs to be done. He inquired into who wished to spearhead that event. The tournament could be held in May or June and it was noted that “Toad” is interested in helping with the event as a sponsor. Darla asked whether a tournament can be shore-line based, and the answer was in the affirmative. Connor brought up the 5k run that Dave Hostetter is putting together. Kyle will check with Dave and be sure it’s working out. It was suggested that perhaps Dave could attend a future promotions committee meeting. There was further discussion regarding the City’s insurance coverage – and hence the park’s coverage – for a variety of fundraising events. Fundraising will continue to be a future topic of discussion.

**Adjournment –** Kent Deal made a motion to adjourn. 2nd by Connor. Motion approved.