

Seymour Parks & Recreation Department
Board Minutes
July 10, 2023 at 4:00p.m.

Seymour Parks & Recreation Board met at Seymour City Hall on Monday, July 10th, at 4 p.m. Members in attendance were Monica Riley, Bethany Rust, Kendra Zumhingst, Tim Ferrett, and Art Juergens. Members of the Parks Department present were Stacy Findley, Chad Keithley, Tracey Cole, and Allycen Wheeler. Also in attendance were Mayor Matthew Nicholson, Public Information Specialist January Rutherford, and Eric Frey. From the Tribune, Zach Spicer attended.

Monica called the meeting to order. A motion to approve the June minutes was made by Bethany and seconded by Kendra. Motion carried. A motion to approve the June claims was made by Bethany and seconded by Art. Motion carried.

Kendra made a motion to approve both the 502 and 506-9 June balances. Tim seconded the motion. Motion carried for approval of both funds.

Updates:

- Stacy wanted to have a follow up on the five year master plan with the Parks Board. She wanted to share how we have been successful in completing several action plans already, but would like to add some more action items to the plan. She said we have had some different grants that have helped us accomplish the action plans in a more timely manner which has been great. She said the one area she felt like she needed to improve on was fundraising on a long term basis; she felt that there was room for improvement in this area on our action plan. Stacy said Chad has started our Putting for Parks Golf Scramble, which has been great, but she would like to add to our Seymour Parks Fund 501(c)(3) through Greater Seymour Trust. She said establishing the Seymour Parks Fund 501(c)(3) through Greater Seymour Trust would allow us to do the longer term, larger campaigns without it going into our operating budget. Stacy would like to seek out local people to step out and make connections with the parks department to help develop fundraising in different areas of the parks.
 - Stacy then introduced Eric Frey to the Parks board. Eric explained the five year master plan and welcomed the Parks board members to speak out on what they may want to change, or action plans they may want to add to the five year master plan.

Park Incidents:

- On June 30, 2023, several parks were affected by storm damage, mostly fallen trees. The tree that fell at Gaiser Park landed on the restroom building causing roof damage in several areas of the roof. Stacy collected several quotes for the roof repair so we could have approval from the board to begin repairs. The first quote was from Earnest Construction in the amount of \$4,500. The second quote was from Amish Roofers in the amount of \$9,410. Kendra made a motion to move forward with the roof repairs with Earnest Construction in the amount of \$4,500 for the restroom building at Gaiser Park. Bethany seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- The fallen tree at Gaiser also had a beehive with bees inhabited, which made for an aggravated colony; Stacy called in a local beekeeper to do a professional honey bee extraction.

Program/Leagues Update:

- Battle of the Praise Bands - This event was on June 22, 2023, at Crossroads Park. We received lots of great feedback and plan on hosting a similar event called Power of the Praise Bands; it will be on August 24, 2023, at Crossroads Park.
- 3 on 3 Basketball - This league will start on July 5, 2023, from 6-9 p.m., on Tuesday nights for women, and Wednesday nights for men. This league will be at Gaiser Park, it is \$20 a player, and max four on a team. Matt Lucas, with Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance sponsored the league. There are currently five teams registered for this league.
- Fall Soccer - Registration started on June 5, 2023. There are currently 177 individuals registered for this league.
- Youth Kickball - Registration started April 17, 2023. There are currently 114 individuals registered for this league.
- Trivia Night - This event is on July 27, 2023, from 6-8 p.m. at Brewskies Downtown patio area.
- July 4th Fireworks - This event took place on July 4, 2023, at Freeman Field Recreational Area. The event was packed. We had to start shutting down the parking lot at 9:50 p.m. We are guessing somewhere around 1,000 cars were present.
- Adult Kickball - Registration started July 10, 2023. This league will start on September 12, 2023 at 6 p.m. at Kasting Park. Registration is \$250 per team for up to 15 players.
- Men's Fall Softball/Co-Ed Softball - Registration started on July 10, 2023. The men's league will start on Sept. 6, 2023. The co-ed league will start on Sept. 11, 2023. Men's fall softball will play on Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. at Gaiser Park softball field. Co-ed fall softball will play on Monday nights at 6 p.m. at Gaiser Park softball field. The fee is \$400 per team, \$15 player fee.
- 3rd Annual Seymour Swing Putting for Parks - This event will be on Aug. 11, 2023, at Shadowood Golf Course. Registration is from 7-8 a.m., with tee time starting at 8 a.m. There are currently 19 teams registered for this event.

Reservation Requests:

- New Beginnings Recovery Center is requesting to hold an event at Crossroads Park on Sept. 9, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. They have submitted the rental agreement, but we are waiting on their COI. Kendra made a motion to approve the New Beginnings Recovery Center request free of charge. Bethany seconded. Motion carried.
- Lori Morgan is requesting to reserve Mellencamp Mural on Aug. 17, 2023, from 3 p.m.-8 p.m. Kendra made a motion to approve Lori Morgan for the reservations at Mellencamp Mural for a \$40 rental fee. Tim seconded. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous Business:

- Monica asked for an update on the Leadership Jackson County project signage. Chad said Leadership Jackson County had the signage made, dropped it off to us, and we placed them in the parks where we felt would be best.

- Bethany requested a field trip by bus for one of our monthly Park Board meetings; she would like to explore all the different properties the Parks Department is responsible for.
- Kendra brought up the idea of a virtual leaf collection for a possible program in the future.

Bethany made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendra seconded the motion. Motion carried to adjourn.

The next Parks Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 14, at 4 p.m.