

CITY OF ROCK ISLAND  
PARK BOARD MEETING  
RIFAC Room 3  
Rock Island IL 61201

6/15/21– Minutes

1. Call to Order

President Fred Dasso called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. Attendance

Members Present: Fred Dasso, Bill Anderson, Venessa Taylor, Mike Foley, John McEvoy, Judith Gilbert

Members Absent: none

Staff Present: John Gripp, Executive Director; Todd Winter, Assistant Director; Kimberly Kruse, Parks Administrative Office Manager

Staff Absent: none

Audience: none

3. May Park Board Minutes

Mr. Anderson motion to approve the minutes as written; Mr. McEvoy seconded. All voted yes.

4. Thank you for the Children's Therapy Center of the Quad Cities was recognized.

5. Monthly Report from Finance Department as of April

Seasonal facilities are starting to open but the revenues will start to be seen in the next month. Therefore, several show as negative balances at this time. Tax dollars have not been seen yet. An explanation of how the funds are received, distributed along with fundraising and sponsor efforts were done for the new park board members. An excess in Admin revenue is from Fleet back money owed. RIFAC is in the middle of energy upgrades with Johnson Controls. The revenues will not be received until the project is finished. Minimum wages presents its challenges as it increases each year. One of the asks from city council will be to get an extra \$100,000 to keep up with the increase.

Financials were reported to the board with a summary explanation of changes and discrepancies. There is a two month lag that will ensure that all revenues and expenditures are reported to give a more accurate look at the department financially.

6. Approval of the Bills for the Month of May for \$217,252.33.

Mr. Dasso: Aye Mr. Foley: Aye Mr. McEvoy: Aye Ms. Taylor: Aye  
Ms. Gilbert: Aye Mr. Anderson: Aye

7. Director's Report and other reports

All seasonal facilities are open and fully operational. Ryan Ballard has done an excellent job getting the Whitewater Junction staff ready and is certified to train for lifeguard which has been an excellent asset to the department. Starlight and summer camps are underway. MLK camps have expanded to RIFAC. HR Director interviews underway. John and Todd are helping with keeping up with mowing. Met with the new District manager, Jack Cullen working on partnerships with the local bars and Schwiebert. Covid guidelines have now allowed for full reopen at all locations.

The first 60 and over tournament was held at Highland Springs. Several outings are planned for the year. Couple's night are going well. First Tee sessions going on in addition to day camps from Adventure camp, Spring Forward, MLK and others.

The week of July 25<sup>th</sup>, the pool will be drained at RIFAC for caulking and hopefully finish boiler replacements. The babysitting room will be getting an overhaul as well.

Double verticut and deep tine aeration have been completed at both courses. These are important to keep the greens looking amazing. This is a relatively new process that is paying off well. Staff is working on a remedy to get rid of the algae in the ponds. It is currently too hot to do the process and will kill all the fish so will do so when conditions are optimal.

QC Corporate Games are underway using a variety of locations from Rock Island Parks and around the area. Rentals, camps, concerts are all going well.

Irrigation maintenance is underway. Mowing is ongoing. The electrical upgrade is completed at the multi use field. A selfie station has been put in at Whitewater Junction with landscaping and plants. The shade garden is complete by the greenhouse at Longview.

New Business

Special Event Application: YMCA/Library Capital Event

Staff recommends approval of the YMCA/Library Capital Event to raise funds for the Jewish Center. Mr. McEvoy motioned. Mr. Foley seconded. All voted yes.

Special Event Application: NAACP CommUnity Celebration

Staff recommends approval of the NAACP CommUnity Celebration with food and amplified sound at MLK Park. Mr. Anderson motioned. Mr. Foley seconded. All voted yes.

Special Event Application: Pushout Screening - Interfaith

Staff recommends approval of the Pushout Screening, a documentary and discussion with amplified sound. Mr. McEvoy motioned. Mr. Foley seconded. All voted yes.

Special Event Application: HAPS Cruising Into Sunset

Staff recommends approval of the HAPS Cruising Into Sunset provided they pay an off duty police officer to stay for an hour after the event. Mr. McEvoy motioned. Mr. Anderson seconded. All voted yes.

8. Old Business

Park tours will be available for park board members. This will be around to various park sites.

Highland Springs First Tee Clubhouse funding is underway with \$300,000 already raised. The RIFAC bond will be paid off in 2024 which will allow for room to make up the gap. Financing will be in place without penalization for paying off the loan early through partnerships with First Tee and fundraising. On June 28<sup>th</sup>, the memo was approved for an RFQ to proceed finding a construction manager and it is hopeful to break ground by November.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Anderson. Mr. Foley seconded. All voted yes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 pm.

---

Kimberly B Kruse,  
Parks & Recreation  
Admin Office Manager