

CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
PARK BOARD MEETING
RIFAC, Room 5
Rock Island IL 61201

6/20/23– 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, Mike Foley, Paul Hansen

Members Absent: Venessa Taylor, John McEvoy

Staff Present: John Gripp, Executive Director; Todd Winter, Assistant Director; Kimberly Kruse, Parks Administrative Office Manager; Steven Sierra, Parks & Recreation Intern

Staff Absent: none

Audience: none

3. April Park Board Minutes

Mr. Anderson motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Foley seconded. All voted yes.

4. Thank you from the QC Animal Welfare Center was recognized.

5. Monthly Report from Finance Department as of April

Numbers at the end of April show that the taxes have not been disbursed yet and the audit is still being completed for CY 2022. There was significant maintenance work done under Johnson Controls at RIFAC due to condensation dripping on the ceiling tiles. Whitewater Junction is not open yet and the golf revenues are starting to come in. RIFAC is doing well and memberships are still growing. Schwiebert Park will be made whole at the end of the year through a transfer. Revenues still get recognized as deposits are made for reservations of special events and shelter rentals but expenditures occur throughout the year for maintenance and wages. Working with Finance to put in the tax disbursement as a breakout through all twelve months to help give a more accurate revenue vs expense picture.

6. Approval of the Bills for the Month of May for \$295,880.19

Mr. Dasso: Aye Mr. Foley: Aye Mr. McEvoy: Abs Ms. Taylor: Abs Mr. Hansen: Aye Mr. Anderson: Aye

7. Director's Report and other reports

Helped with registrations at MLK Center for baseball programming. The MLK Center pays 50% and the other half is taken care of with financial assistance through partnership with the Park Foundation. This allowed 20 families to take part in programming. This helped tremendously with getting access to low income families into recreation programs and will be helping with future registration days. Pete secured a grant from a MLB affiliate of Game Time that donates helmets, gloves, equipment and sponsors lunches for the pitch, hit and run camps. Participated in the monthly webinar. Flood prep was done and panels were installed at Schwiebert Park. Sunset Park is cleaned up after the flood. Mr. Foley asked what was going to be done with the mulch. It will be taken away by a Public Works contractor. The Fire Department is currently undergoing a reorganization and John has offered Kim to help with the software training. Talked to WHBF about Whitewater Junction opening. The First Tee program is going amazing and growing. Campground Consultants met during a group zoom meeting to talk about Sunset Park. The potential campground is a city council initiative. A feasibility study is underway through Campground Consulting Group. Mr. Anderson said that the end goal should be to sell the park and marina to get out from under it. Mr. Foley is against turning the park into a campground. The reason for entertaining this idea is to help find ways to get the park and Marina sustainable. The Park Board helps set policy but the City Council makes the final decisions. Douglas Park lighting is up. RIFAC RFP bid was received and rejected for being way over budget. Met with the architects to break the bid into smaller pieces and do the projects over time. Currently the items of note are replacing the lockers in the changing rooms, the floors in the locker rooms, put in windows in the pool area and work on the family locker rooms. An RFP was released for each individual project to get more competitive bids. Highland Clubhouse is done with the exception of a few minor checklist items. Denkmann Park renovation is complete. Mel McKay soil test is complete and is out for bid.

First Tee camp was last week and had over 30 kids. This week, partner programs were brought out to participate in the First Tee programs. An open house was done at Saukie Clubhouse to communicate with neighbors and show the renderings of a potential new clubhouse. There has been great feedback and support. Last week and this week was Youthworks at Sunset Park. The group painted railings at RIFAC as well and picked up litter. They have asked for more dates to be able to assist with projects. Assorted summer camps are going well. Sports leagues are done. The senior slow pitch tournament was this week. July 12th is the drive, pitch and putt at Highland Springs. Whitewater Junction is jammed busy. Montana and staff are doing great.

There's been a lot of field prep for baseball and softball. Irrigation work is being done at the Complex. Lots of games and little league at Douglas Park. The Firehouse is now gone and grated. Some of the bricks and the lintel have been kept. In town fields are up and in great shape. Chalk Art Fest is this weekend and the fountains will be closed per the event organizer. Augustana is working on the tennis courts at Lincoln Park. There will be a lot of grading as the project nears completion. Schwiebert Park lights are up over the Great Lawn. Longview Park maintenance garage roof has been replaced.

8. New Business

Special Event Application: Floatzilla

Staff recommends approval of Floatzilla on August 19th for amplified sound. Mr. Anderson motioned, Mr. Foley seconded. All said yes.

Old Park Office RFP

There is an RFP out to demo the old park office. This building is in very deteriorated shape and has asbestos and lead so it must be done in a certain way for demo.

Firehouse #5

Friends of Hauberg Civic will be repurposing the copper gutter from the firehouse.

Campground Consulting Group site visit

Campground Consultants were taken around to Sunset Park and all the surrounding locations of interest for their data to put together in a study that will be presented to council.

Adult Swim Review

The Adult Swim at Whitewater Junction was a huge success. There were all range of adults and no incidents. We will do this event again due to the demand.

Jr. Board of Rock Island Grant

The Jr. Board of Rock Island has granted \$3,000 for financial assistance to help with youth assistance in programs.

9. Other Business

None

10. Items Not on the Agenda

None

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Hansen. Mr. Foley. All voted yes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Kimberly B Kruse,
Parks & Recreation
Admin Office Manager