

MINUTES

The **Rogers Parks & Recreation Commission** met for a regular session on March 17, 2021 at 12:00 PM. The meeting was called to order by .

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL:

Present: Betty Evans, David Hale, Greg Lindley, Mendy Fisher, Paul O'Rourke, Shawn Lee, Nathan Gairhan

PUBLIC FORUM:

There were no comments from the public.

ACTION ON MINUTES:

Motion by Greg Lindley, second by Betty Evans to Approve the minutes as submitted.

1. Minutes of February 17th, 2021 Meeting

REPORTS:

1. Projects & Progress Reports

David Hook discussed Mt. Hebron being under construction. Grading should start on March 18th. Trees that were needing to be removed or knocked down by the tornado have been taken care of to start working on erosion control. Road delayed by utilities and easements needed, but should not interfere with park construction. Revising drawing plans and sent them out to contractor. Working on maintenance facilities building plans with CEI and should be moving forward with the final design and construction soon.

Lance Jobe discussed construction of Railyard Park. Due to delays, park construction should finish up around mid-April. Landscaping and trees are starting to get installed and they will begin installing the shade structures next week. Centennial Park plans are going to Historic Commission on March 17th and will be going out to bid shortly after.

KEnt McLaughlin provided and update on Cambridge Park drainage and wayfinding signs. Working to address drainage issues at tie in to existing trail. Lake Atalanta bid opening for gravel lot replacement taking place on March 22nd. The hope is to replace the gravel with permeabel pavers. Working on lighting additions to trail from the Railyard Bike Park down to Clark PAvilion. The hawk lighth on Dixieland is not working, Street Dept. has ordered the parts needed to be replaced.

2. Trail Counts

February trail counts were down due to weather. Lake Atalanta counter has been damaged and is out for maintenance. New Hope counter is counting and the display is working again. A spring tree giveaway will be held this spring, waiting for the grant to come through before announcing a date. Participating in the Do Your Part Initiative from March 29th - April 30th. Contact free cleanup supply boxes will be at Mercy Trailhead, Horsebarn Trailhead, and Lake Atalanta. All major cities in NWA will be participating.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Arkansas Arts Academy 5K Request

Motion by David Hale, second by Nathan Gairhan to Approve the Arkansas Arts Academy 5k request.

2. Discussion of Lake Atalanta Duathlon

Motion by Betty Evans, second by Greg Lindley to Approve Lake Atalanta Duathlon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Parks & Recreation office has returned to 5 staff members in the office, with the goal of returning to full staff in the office by March 15th. After coordinating with legal and the Mayor's office we have been given approval to resume pavilion rentals. Still waiting on approval of resuming field rentals. With the Railyard Park opening soon, Anna Watson at Community Development has been tasked with handling scheduling of the Butterfield Stage. Andrea Brinton provided an update on the YALP play structure at Veterans Park. New play structure at Foxfire has been confirmed, it will be the first play equipment of its kind in the world. The swings will still remain at the park.

ADJOURN:

Meeting was adjourned by chairman: Paul O'Rourke at 12:41pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Secretary

Chairman