

**City of Wyoming
Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 6, 2020**

Members present: Holly Emch, Howard Krueger, Stephanie Hass, Laura Lazaraton, Daniele Eller, Alex Albers, Kara Broderick, and Nancy Averett.

Staff members present: Rachel Leininger – Director of Recreation and Citizen Engagement

Others Present: None.

Citizen Participation: None.

Call to Order:

Ms. Emch called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the December minutes was made by Mr. Krueger second by Ms. Hass. All ayes.

Reports:

- City Council – Ms. Averett reported that City Council passed the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) at the January Committee of the Whole/Special Council Meeting. She also announced that the Wyoming Recreation Foundation kicked off the fundraiser for the Village Green pavilion, including hiring a professional fundraiser. Ms. Averett explained that the Pavilion would be funded first, and that the splash pad area would be a later phase. She also explained that the facility would have many sustainable features. Ms. Averett reported that donors who donate \$100,000 can receive naming rights, and that the pavilion is expected to be a regional draw for larger performances and economic development. Mr. Krueger stated that Maggie Barnes from the Wyoming HS Alumni Band is a great contact for performances. Ms. Emch asked what the status of Chisholm Park was. Ms. Leininger stated that Chisholm Park would be presented again to City Council during the CIP process. She further explained that during the evaluation of Chisholm Park a group of citizen's came to advocate for an inclusive playground and with the planned update to Crescent Park, there was an opportunity to look at building an inclusive playground at Crescent Park, and while outside funding is being sought after for this project, City Council still needs to review the project. Mr. Krueger stated that he believed acquiring a property for sale around Chisholm could provide the space for a parking lot. Ms. Leininger stated that acquiring a home and adding a parking lot was in the original proposal, but was not received well by the neighbors. Mr. Albers stated he believed adding sidewalks would be an improvement in the

area. Ms. Eller asked if the project phases that had been discussed by Recreation Commission had been identified. Ms. Leininger stated that she would follow up with the city manager and the landscape architect to check on the status of the phased design.

- Administration – Ms. Leininger stated that the Daddy Daughter Dance was sold out both nights and would be hosted this coming weekend at the Civic Center. She also stated that staff are hoping to be able to increase the numbers of tickets available for the events by rearranging the setup so that more people can comfortably fit in the main hall. Ms. Hass asked if they had considered opening up the downstairs for overflow. Ms. Leininger stated that that had been considered, but she felt like everyone would want to stay upstairs, and that supervision would be an issue in the bowling alley. Ms. Leininger also announced that the Kattelman property project should begin on March 30. Mr. Krueger asked if the project would include a barrier near the sidewalk on Springfield Pike. Ms. Leininger explained that there would be a traffic barrier between the sidewalk and the seating areas, but that it wouldn't be a visual focus point from Springfield Pike as the project includes landscaping all along Springfield Pike, and should be a major improvement from the streetscape. Ms. Lazaraton asked if at one time the City had planned to install sports fields at the corner of Lakeridge and McKelvy. Ms. Leininger explained that there had been plans to add fields at that location, but that they had fallen through and the grant money that been awarded for the project was used to construct the turf field at the Recreation Center.
- School Board – Ms. Broderick announced that they broke ground on construction of the Champion Center with an expected completion of September. Ms. Broderick explained that mostly of the fund have been raised, included additional funds that were raised at the recent Foundation Event. She explained that \$1000 per month is expected in operational costs, but all other associated costs are expected to be privately funded. Ms. Broderick also announced that winter school sports are moving into tournament season.
- Chairperson—Ms. Emch none.

Business:

- Commission Member Responsibility Areas:
 - Youth Sports— Ms. Hass reported that the basketball league in Oak gym on Sunday had problems with middle school kids taking over the courts. Ms. Leininger stated she was aware they were kids in the gym that were refusing to leave which is against the policies at Oak Gym because the gym is only open by reservation. She stated that unsupervised kids in the gym has been an ongoing problem and many times has resulted in property damage, and that police will be called to secure the property if needed.
 - Adult Sports/Recreation & Senior Activities (Howard Krueger): Mr. Krueger reported that this it has been a very successful men's 40 and over basketball league with 64 players.
 - Fitness, Programs, and Aquatics: none.

- Facilities, Parks & Grounds (Daniele): none.
- Greenways: none.
- Special Events—none.

Other:

- Master Plan Focus/Ideas: Ms. Eller stated that after looking at the SWOT analysis provided in the Master Plan, she felt like walkability and use of open green space/parks was and area of focus. Mr. Albers agreed, and based on the hike/bike trail being part of a regional trail system it would make sense to have a trail head at the parking lot on Van Roberts. He also asked why the trail piece along North Park was not able to provide a paved trail. Ms. Leininger stated that she believed there was not ample land in the area to provide a paved surface, as the land is adjacent to land owned by CSX Railroad. Ms. Leininger also stated that the new plan does include adding bikes and other amenities near the parking lot.
- Ms. Lazaraton stated that walkability and the need for sidewalks was the biggest thing she could see. Ms. Averett said that City Council will be looking at ways to put sidewalks on Mt. Pleasant. Ms. Lazaraton also stated that she would like to see open bowling nights offered.
- Ms. Emch said that she would like to see more winter programming offered on Friday nights or Sunday's similar to the programs offered by the library. Ms. Emch said she attended a great STEM event by the Children's Museum that was hosted at library. Ms. Broderick stated she knew the head of programming, Whitney Owens, at the Museum Center and would be happy to make the connection. Ms. Lazaraton also stated she could get contact info from any programming through the libraries.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Leininger