

MURRAY PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
Minutes of Meeting  
Wednesday, August 12, 2020

**Board Members in Attendance**

Jeff Beal  
Sunshine Szedeli (excused)  
Mindy Canova  
Ted Maestas  
Kim Sorensen  
Dana Dmitrich

The Parks & Recreation Board Meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm by Ted Maestas. Ted shared the guidelines for Covid19 meeting and opened comments to be emailed to ksorensen@murray.utah.gov.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Jeff Beal to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Dana Dmitrich. Motion was unanimous.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

There were no citizen comments.

**GOLF COURSE FEES**

Kim shared a spreadsheet with the board for golf fee comparisons and what is being proposed for increase at the Murray Parkway Golf Course. Ted mentioned fees are still below average even with the proposed increase, so the fees remain very reasonable. Jeff mentioned the pricing for seniors is considerably less and inquired about the demographics of people utilizing the golf course. John Pearson from the golf course entered the meeting and shared about demographics. Demographics remained balanced between all ages of participants. Dana Dmitrich made a motion to accept the proposed increases as they are fully within the fair comparison rates and continue to cover the costs of the golf course. Ted Maestas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**PAVILION UPDATE**

The majority of tasks for Pavilions 1, 3, and 4 are complete to reserve but some lights and electrical details are being refined. Pavilion 2-the shell has been constructed and footings were poured today, August 12, 2020. The timeline for completion is 2<sup>nd</sup> week of September. It was shared each pavilion has been

constructed with great quality adding beauty to the park. The project is behind schedule due to Covid19 and construction delays out of Michigan but progress continues. Contractor Kevin D Allen has been exceptional to partner with through construction. Pavilion 5 construction was initially placed on hold as the site was challenging with power lines etc. but is now in the process of being designed. The original architect for the pavilion design is no longer available so another architect was assigned and discovered the pavilion plan would not accommodate snow loads so the pavilion design needed to be restarted. Polygon is fast tracking this project however and a gazebo that will be installed into pavilion 6 area, (to the east of pavilion 5), was ordered today, August 12<sup>th</sup>. It will be arriving in October. The pavilion will be ordered August 17<sup>th</sup> and is expected to arrive the latter part of October. It will accommodate up to 400 people. Budget allows for gazebo, pavilion and attached restroom. Construction is hoped to go from November to first part of 2021. Power lines, power boxes and fiber optic lines have all been moved or buried. The water overflow/firepit area by pavilion 5 will be raised level with the pavilion and structured to eliminate any water problems.

#### **MURRAY THEATER UPDATE**

In the early stages of Covid19, Salt Lake County rescinded its offer of 3.7 million dollars to the city so Murray City has had to halt the project. Unfortunately, this was following already accrued costs and demolition that had taken place at the theater now deeming it unusable. The project may not be reinstated for years.

#### **WINCHESTER PLAYGROUND UPDATE**

Utah Outdoor Recreation approved a grant for the full amount of \$50,000 to the parks department to construct a boulder playground at Winchester Pavilion located at 6400 S. and 1250 W. They are fully able to continue the funding for this grant. The boulder playground will be constructed late September to early October of 2020 and will replace the current smaller playground. Murray is excited about obtaining this playground as it will be the first of its kind along the Jordan River. Jeff Beal inquired whether this was the area where there was discussion of a more adequate entry point into the river for boats. Kim shared the river rafting company proposal had been put on hold due to Covid19 but Salt Lake county received funding and is in the process of improving several boat ramps, one that includes the 6400 S. location. Kim is unaware of the time frame this improvement will take place. City and County do not want liability for the boat ramps, however.

#### **COVID IMPACT ON PARKS AND RECREATION**

Senior recreation center remains closed. Clientele are considered most vulnerable. Sack lunches provided daily for those in need. Twenty to thirty people utilize this service. Car bingo is taking place each Wednesday morning and enthusiasm has been high. Family concerts at Grant Park on Monday have been popular. Employees from senior rec have been dispersed to cemetery and the parks department to utilize their help during the closure. Park center closed for several months but Marci, center director, was very effective in completing numerous improvements and cleaning maintenance during that time. The center is now open and more patrons are utilizing it when they feel comfortable. Participation rate is about 50% however, and people have been slow to return. Outdoor pool opened a month later than usual and accommodated up to 120 patrons at a time. Was as effective as possible. Recreation has a few programs in motion. Soccer is starting August 13<sup>th</sup>. People have been reluctant to return but the parks and recreation department has been providing options for patrons to participate. Dana inquired about revenue lost and Kim shared, at least for the parks and recreation department, it was at about 75%. Upcoming activities

include a virtual 5K, soccer golf, chalk art contest, and currently cornhole, softball, and soccer are taking place. Numerous people still continue to visit the park including patrons who have breakfast, businesses that have work meetings that social distance and the Jordan River Parkway has had considerably more traffic through Covid19 pandemic. Mindy Canova inquired about food trucks and if attendance had been up. Kim shared attendance had increased this year. The city does not receive revenue for the food trucks. City is providing it as service to community.

Pickleball courts have been highly utilized. Some conflict in the evenings with select patrons monopolizing courts and restricting others from playing. Reservations for courts in the afternoons and evenings has started and patrons can pay to use courts which has proven to be successful. Most reservations are residents.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Murray mansion plans to stage and staff the museum at this location. The mansion was invaded and burglarized three times over the last two weeks. Items unable to be replaced were stolen. Police will increase monitoring. Monies for the outdoor pool parking lot were approved and project will take place when pool closes for the season. Work will be completed with city resources. Monies available for some maintenance and monies for Pavilion 5 renovation were rolled over from FY2020 to use. Jeff Beal shared the pump house project really enhanced the area by the softball field and was done in a productive way, aesthetically and with minimal noise.

Jordan River Commission blueprint is being updated so input is appreciated.

#### **QUESTIONS**

Dana inquired about the status of any possible splash pads. Kim shared the CIP funding was not issued this year due to Covid19 and was unsure of the upcoming years and funding even though splash pads are a topic of interest in the community. Mindy stated all splash pads are closed at the moment, due to Covid19.

Mindy inquired about signs along the Jordan River trail soliciting input on what patrons envision for that area. Kim shared this is spearheaded by Jordan River Commission and encouraged board to log on to the website to share their input and he will share a link for them to access it.

Mindy brought up the bridge by the 18<sup>th</sup> hole of the golf course, stating it was just too narrow with blind corners. She proposed a new bridge be built or something done to make it safer. Kim shared it would be about \$250,000 to replace. If CIP's are approved, monies can be requested to replace it if board deems it pertinent.

Mindy shared with the board her correspondence with Bruce, park superintendent, about the road leading from 5300 S. to Germania pavilion and speeding patrons. Bruce took the concerns to city engineer who discouraged the use of speed bumps for snowplow reasons. A digital speedometer was suggested as well but Mindy solicited any input that could be proposed to solve the speed issue.

Kim asked if the meeting format was working and board agreed. Ted mentioned possibly having the board meeting in the park, socially distanced as an option.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 9, 2020. Kim mentioned it will be a zoom meeting unless otherwise decided. A motion was made to end the meeting at 6:32 p.m. Motion was unanimous.