

MURRAY PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
Minutes of Meeting  
Wednesday, January 13, 2021

**Board Members in Attendance**

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

The Parks & Recreation Board Meeting was called to order at 5:31 by Ted Maestas who conducted the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ted made a motion to accept the minutes of November 18, 2020. Sunshine seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

There were no citizen comments.

**SENIOR RECREATION CENTER UPDATE- Tricia Cooke-Center Director**

Tricia Cooke, senior recreation center director attended the meeting to supply an update with the activities being offered by the center. Although the center remains closed, her update included implementation of Zoom classes which entail art and history classes, consultations and exercise classes. They are currently offering pickleball play on the outdoor court since the weather has been mild. The center will be offering legal consultations and tax preparation service for patrons who want to schedule a time online. Line dancing will resume in the summer months in the park pavilion as patrons can participate safely in a distanced environment. Car bingo continued into the early winter months as patrons utilized that option to participate safely in their cars. Tricia expressed they were able to serve a Thanksgiving and Christmas meal to patrons as well, and many participated. Daily lunches continue Monday through Friday for patrons who schedule 24 hours in advance. Lunches will be taken out to their vehicle similar to a drive through service. Twenty-five Ipad's have been purchased and the center has been rewired. This will allow patrons to reserve the Ipad and use outside of the center to attend zoom classes. The senior golf league will be starting up soon in the spring. Tricia shared the closure has been very difficult and she reported 41 members passed away in 2020.

## **COVID UPDATE**

Kim updated the board regarding Covid and its impact on the Parks and Recreation Department. Plans are moving forward to host the July 4<sup>th</sup> activities. The float has been ordered and if it is not utilized this year due to Covid, it will be available to use 2022. Several vendors are utilized for July 4<sup>th</sup> therefore reservations need to be made prior to the holiday. There will be a cancel clause placed in the contracts in case the celebration is canceled due to Covid, and the city will not lose large monetary sums due to canceled rental agreements. Recreation programs are in progress and participation numbers are solid. Patrons are pleased there are options for their kids to participate in the activities. The largest restriction to this program is limited spectators so participants are allowed only one spectator. The Park Center is open but did not receive the influx of people the new year usually brings with New Year's resolutions. The revenue will reflect this decrease in numbers. The Park Center has limited the number in the competition pool to eight patrons, one per lane. People are forming lines to use the pool. Leisure pool is limited in numbers as well and patrons leave contact information and staff inform them when there is availability in the pool. Murray Park and the areas along the Jordan River Parkway continue to have a high traffic as the weather is mild and people are utilizing the outdoor space frequently. Golf course was closed but due to the mild weather they have opened and will remain open until the weather changes. Revenue, even through Covid, is up approximately \$200,000. Most likely the golf course will not need to be subsidized this year by the city. Cemetery is conducting regular business as funerals have been occurring on Saturdays. Kim shared that several employees have now been diagnosed with Covid as the year proceeds.

## **MIDYEAR BUDGET**

Kim informed the board the mayor and city council requested a list of any CIP (Capital Improvement Projects) that were removed upon the onset of Covid, and now are thought to definitely be needed, to submit a request to be placed back in the budget. Parks wanted to add their original request back into the budget, of a vehicle, as a pickup truck has been failing and needs completely replaced. The Senior Recreation Center is in need of an HVAC replacement as a portion of the furnace is not operating. The Murray Parkway Golf Course is in need of replacement for their golf carts as batteries are in a great state of deterioration or not operating at all, seats are torn, and tires are bald. Monies needed to replace the batteries entail \$45,000 but that would only address the battery operational portion as there will still be cosmetic and tire replacement needs. The golf course would like approval to replace the golf carts early as there was already money allotted for 2021, \$380,000, to have the carts replaced. Two sand rakes are needed for the golf course as well and \$45,000 would be needed to replace them. Mindy inquired about the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration and what would need to happen for plans to move forward. Kim stated as soon as the governor relaxes the numbers allowed for events to assemble will carry a better possibility for it to occur. July 4<sup>th</sup> is on a Sunday so festivities will be observed on Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **PARK IMPACT FEE**

Kim asked the group their thoughts of a park impact fee. This fee, which concerns anyone building a new home in Murray, would be required of residents to pay an impact fee for purchasing land and developing parks within Murray City. Those new parks would be partially paid from the impact fees. Impact fees cannot be used for maintenance costs. This would help maintain Murray's park availability to residents. Currently the City has eight acres of park land per 1,000 residents. The Park Master Plan recommends

maintaining 7 acres per 1,000 residents. This impact fee cannot apply to anything but new land and new development.

Outlying totals from other cities include: Holladay-\$2504 per unit, Salt Lake-\$5173 per unit, Taylorsville-\$1290 per unit, Millcreek City-\$494.68, Midvale has no fee, and Cottonwood Heights issues a tax on special assessment. This will be one time fee for the new park. Dana shared that she believes it is a progressive step, as high density building increases, and this would ensure green space. Ted shared this would be a minimal fee when considering the overall cost of a house. Sunshine inquired if this impact fee would include commercial buildings. Sunshine made a motion that Murray City would implement this impact fee for new residential and commercial property. Ted Maestas seconded the motion and the whole board agreed unanimously.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Kim informed the board of two new employees at the Parks office. Jamie Baird was hired as an Office Administrator II position and will be assisting the front desk in office administrative tasks. Rhett Gardiner was hired as a recreation coordinator and will be assisting Cory Plant and Leisl Morris in coordinating recreation programs. They were welcomed aboard. Kim shared the mild weather has been wonderful for the pavilion #5 project. Once the foundation is poured, the remainder of the structure can be completed even in inclement weather, so this has been very beneficial for the timeline of its completion.

### **QUESTIONS**

Dana questioned if any plans were in place to install a bridge to go over 900 E. to reach Wheeler Farm? The traffic along that area is extremely busy and can be hazardous to people attempting to cross over 900 E. to access Wheeler Farm. Kim shared he had not heard of any plans. Ted shared the difficulty in connecting roads and trails in a city.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ted Maestas adjourned the meeting at 6:28 pm.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 5:30 pm