Centralia Park Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 11, 2023

 Centralia Community Golf Course

12:00 PM

**Park Board Members Present:** Phil Hulen, Dale Davidson, Richard Dickerson, Todd Alden, John Wheeler, Lindsey Magley, Mandi Barnes, and Jessi O’Bannon.

**Also Present:** Erle Bennett—Park Director, Andrea Owens—Secretary, and Harold Decker.

Meeting was called to order at 12:01p.m. by President, Phil Hulen.

The Minutes from December 5, 2023, were approved by consent.

The Treasurer’s Report was not ready at this time. Discussion was held regarding the Budget Reports.

Dale Davidson made a motion to go into closed session. Jessi O’Bannon seconded the motion. Phil Hulen asked that the motion be accepted by role call vote. Voting for: Dale Davidson, Richard Dickerson, John Wheeler, Todd Allen, Jessi O’Bannon, Lindsey Magley, Mandi Barnes, and Phil Hulen. Voting Against: None. The session was now closed.

Discussion was held regarding full-time employees not accepting the City of Centralia insurance will qualify for a raise April 1, 2024. Discussion was held regarding Personnel, the minimum wage, and the 2024-2025 Pay Scale.

There being no further business, Richard Dickerson asked for the meeting to come out of closed session. Linsdey Magley seconded the motion. Phil Hulen asked that the motion be adopted by role call vote. Voting for: Dale Davidson, Richard Dickerson, John Wheeler, Todd Allen, Lindsey Magley, Mandi Barnes, Jessi O’Bannon, and Phil Hulen. Voting Against: None. The session was now open.

**Recreation Center**

It was reported that the Recreation Center currently has 2,735 members. Last month the membership was 2,732 and last year the membership was 2,662.

The Park Director reported that the 3rd and 4th grade boys and girls Youth Basketball have begun practicing during the week. Games being played at the Centralia Recreation Center will be on the following Saturdays: January 20, 2024, January 27, 2024, and February 3, 2024.

The Park Director reported that a Park employee that was clearing off snow at the East Annex accidentally hit the side of a van with the blade. No injuries sustained and insurance has been filed.

**Park**

The Park Director presented a list of 2024 Proposed Park Projects and Expenditures:

* Addition of Restroom at Bicentennial Park East Field
* Scrap Tire Mulch for playground at Bicentennial Park
* Walking Trail at City Recreation Park
* Addition of Batting Cage at South Field
* Scrap Tire Grant for Benches/Tables at City Recreation Park
* Upgrade at South Shelter Playground
* Purchase of used Side by Side at a cost of $3,500
* Purchase of Mower, already approved for the 2024 Budget

The Park Director reported that the Bicentennial Park concession stand has been broken into twice this month—once a broken window, and the other the glass on the door. The door will be replaced with a solid frame and no glass. Discussion was held regarding purchasing a Ring Cam for both concession areas.

The Park Director reported the ARPA applications are due at the end of this month and presented them to the Board. Richard Dickerson made a motion with a second from Mandi Barnes to approve the two ARPA applications—Covid-19 ARPA funding in the amount of $180,000 for the Infrastructure at the Community Pool and Community Golf Course, and $254,500 for a park at the Northeast side of Centralia. Motion passed unanimously.

Richard Dickerson left the meeting at 12:48 p.m.

**Pool**

The Park Director reported that Eva Guile, the Kids Club Director, will also be helping with swimming lessons this summer 2024.

The Park Director reported that many Lifeguards will be returning from last season, and approximately 3-4 new Guards will be hired for the 2024 season.

Discussion was held regarding the rates and hours of the Pool. The Pool Committee will meet in the next few weeks to finalize details of pool parties and hours of operation.

**Golf**

The Park Director reported that the new windows in the patio have been installed and will be sealed with foam.

Dale Davidson made a motion with a second from John Wheeler to accept the 2024 proposed Golf Course fee structure, except for the range pass fees, which will be reconfigured and presented at a later date. Motion passed unanimously.

The Park Director reported that the Golf Carts will be tagged this 2024 Season.

Discussion was held regarding offering a Kids League Night during the summer months.

The Park Director presented a 2024 tentative Golf Course Tournament schedule—see attached.

Lindsey Magley and John Wheeler left at 1:54 p.m.

**Items Which May Arise**

The Park Director reported that 113 trees have been removed from the Parks and Golf Course—545 total trees have been planted, and 342 of those have been planted at the Centralia Community Golf Course.

Discussion was held regarding benefits for the City of Centralia employees. Mandi Barnes made a motion with a second from Jessi O’Bannon to offer 25% off any type of Memberships at the Centralia Recreation Center and/or the Centralia Community Golf Course. All were in favor apart from Dale Davidson. These benefits will go into effect once paperwork and contracts are devised.

Jessi O’Bannon made a motion with a second from Richard Dickerson to amend the Head Receptionist at the Centralia Recreation Center to $14.00/hr., to amend all Receptionists pay at the Centralia Recreation Center and the Centralia Community Golf Course to $13.00/hr. and to amend all Maintenance positions for the Parks, Recreation Center, and Golf Course to $14.00/hr. to be effective immediately. Motion passed unanimously.

The Park Director reported that the Activity Room will be rented on Monday, January 29, 2024, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for a campaign representative’s meeting in lieu of John Martin.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be held Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at noon at the Recreation Center.

Meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Andrea Owens, Parks and Recreation Dept Secretary.