

Peru Park and Recreation Minutes

January 9, 2024

Board President Steve Michelini called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Attendance: Board Members – Steve Michelini, Jeff Puetz, John Fusinato, Ray Zborowski, Jill Bernal, Recreation Manager Seth Brannan, Director of Parks, Recreation and Special Events - Adam Thorson

Absent: Dan Eiten, Liz Grzybowski

I- Guests: None

II- Previous Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 12 2023 meeting was made by John F and seconded by Steve M.

III- Revenue and Expense Report

The Revenue and Expense Report was presented to the board by Adam T via email.

IV- New Business

Communications:

Adam T and Seth B presented a Brazilian United Soccer Camp that had contacted the City about usage during the summer. After conversation on whether the City should approve the usage, the board decided that we should allow the soccer camp to be held at Veteran's Park the week of June 24th – June 28th. Camp signups are done through their own organization and costs the City nothing. If the attendance numbers do not meet the minimum, the organization contacts those who signed up and cancels the camp with full reimbursement. If the camp takes place, the organization pays the City \$10 per camper.

Seth B informed the board that 2024 camp signups will take place online beginning May 1.

Adam T informed the board that there is no update on the Splash Pad feature that was ordered February 2023, but that there will be a follow up email sent to RainDrop for an update.

Discuss 2024 City Events:

Adam T presented a summer schedule of events to the board beginning on weekends in May and ending towards the end of August. Highlighted are set event dates which include the 2024 Airshow on May 17/18, Touch a Truck on June 15, fireworks on July 3, Taste of the Illinois Valley on August 1, 2 & 3, and Pistol Shrimp home games on Friday and Saturday throughout the summer months. Between those set event dates, there will be 7 Music Under the Oaks dates available, along with a Movie in the Park date available. Multiple bands were named by the board for requests including She's a Maybe, Steve Sharp Band, River Road Trio, Regle Beagle, Cody Calkins, Tim Ajster, Abby Normal and Free Range Chickens. Adam T mentioned he would contact the suggested

bands and others individually to check availability for summer 2024 booking and hopeful to be finalized by February.

V Unfinished Business

Adam T mentioned that we are uncertain if the ice rink will be used this winter because of the uncertainty of the weather. The City has applied for two separate grants in efforts to secure an ice chilling system. At this time, the City has yet to receive any feedback, but hopeful to receive feedback soon.

Ray Z suggested a new dog run at the dog park because the current one is outdated and could use an upgrade.

Adam T mentioned there has been sledding taking place at McKinley Park.

VII- Public Comment

Connie Schwingle mentioned that while people are sledding at McKinley Park, parking has been an issue. There are people parking their cars in the handicap parking spot and cars parking in the grass causing ruts. Steve M asked Connie S if she had called the police department when she noticed the parking violations. Connie S claims that she has called the police department, but no violations have been given and it continues to happen. Adam T stated that he would follow up with the police department to address the issue. Adam T also stated that the parks department would address the grass issues in the spring and clean it up.

VII- Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 7:07pm was made by Ray Z and seconded by Steve M. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

*** Minutes submitted by Adam Thorson