

## **Peru Park and Recreation Minutes**

**January 14, 2025**

Board Chairman Steve Michelini called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

**Attendance:** Board Members – Steve Michelini, Ray Zborowski, John Fusinatto, Dan Eiten, Jill Bernal, Scotty Miller, Douglas Olivero, Recreation Manager Seth Brannan, Director of Parks, Recreation and Special Events - Adam Thorson

**Absent:** Board Members – Jeff Puetz, Liz Grzybowski

**I- Guests:** Mayor Ken Kolowski, Alderman Andy Moreno, Rob Ankiewicz

### **II- Previous Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2024 meeting was made by Ray Z and seconded by John F.

### **III- Revenue and Expense Report**

Adam T presented the Parks expense report.

### **IV- New Business**

#### **Communications:**

Adam T mentioned the ice skating rink has been utilized heavily since it has been open and available.

Rob Ankiewicz presented a plan for Washington Park's Happ Field that has been discussed between himself, Adam T, Ray Z and Parks employee Bob Ghighi. The plan included a new backstop, new dugouts and a new scorers booth that also serves as storage. All board members agreed that the field needs improvements with as much play that Happ Field receives between Peru Little League, Junior High baseball, Central Region Tournament, and travel leagues. Adam T stated he would get prices on specific parts of the project, and work to get it in the budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

### **V Unfinished Business**

#### **Update 28<sup>th</sup> St Park:**

Adam T stated that the playground had been completed, and that ground restoration is the only thing that needs to be completed in the Spring of 2025.

Jill B stated that one of the swings might not have been put together correctly and appears broken. Adam T stated that it would be attended to the following day.

Jill B stated the porta potty was tipped over and needed to be cleaned and possibly replaced.

Jill B stated that children are climbing the dirt pile and jumping into the dumpster. Adam T stated that the dumpster will be removed, and the dirt pile needs to remain for the time being for ground restoration in the Spring of 2025.

#### **Update Sunset Park:**

Adam T stated that the diamond project at Sunset Park has been completed, other than the roofing system on the dugouts. Adam T reported that Tieman Builder's were awarded the bid for \$12,200 for the project and it would be completed by the time Peru Girls Softball began.

#### **Discuss Washington Park OSLAD Grant:**

Adam T stated that the sidewalks throughout the West side of the park have been completed and that the bid for the rest of the project including the ice rink chillers had been awarded to Ski Sealcoating and Maintenance.

#### **Discuss 2025 Summer Events:**

Adam T stated that he is in the process of planning for summer and if anyone has certain band suggestions, to please forward to him for booking and mentioning there will be 6-8 available dates for Music Under the Oaks concerts at Centennial Park.

#### **Discuss 2025 Park Projects:**

Adam T suggested moving forward with the process of trying to fund the project at Washington Park considering how much activity Happ Field gets, and the need for improvements.

Adam T discussed which park is in need next for improvements. It was decided that McKinley Park gets a lot of use in the summer months with softball played consistently, and it would be a good improvement to that park. Adam T also stated that a large playground isn't the need at the park, and something smaller would fit the area better. It might not cost as much as the previous two that were completed, which helps fund the cost of the Washington Park diamond project. Adam T also stated that he would proceed with the same grant opportunity with GameTime and Cunningham Recreation that the City has benefitted from in recent years for playground projects.

#### **VII- Public Comment**

#### **VII- Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn at 7:20pm was made by Steve M and seconded by Ray Z. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

\*\*\* Minutes submitted by Adam Thorson