

St. Helens Parks Commission

Monday, August 17, 2015, 4:00 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers

Agenda

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Approval of Minutes: June 15, 2015 regular meeting
3. Topics from the floor—from attendees not otherwise on the agenda
Speakers are limited to 3-5 minutes. Topics requiring action may be placed on the next meeting's agenda for further discussion.
4. New Business
 - Welcome New Commissioner Jerry Belcher
 - Right-of-Ways Through Parks – Jacob Graichen
 - Renaming of 6th Street Field
5. Old Business
 - Pay Station Updates
6. Discussion Items
7. Councilor's Report
8. Other Matters
9. Adjournment

The next regular meeting of the St. Helens Parks Commission is scheduled at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, October 19, 2015, in the City Hall Council Chambers.

ST. HELENS PARKS COMMISSION

Minutes for Meeting of June 15, 2015

Council Chambers, City Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jacob Woodruff, Chair
Howard Blumenthal, Vice Chair
Phillip Roddy, Commissioner
Elisa Mann, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT

Thad Houk, Parks Supervisor
Neal Sheppeard, PW Co-Director
Sheri Ingram, Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT

Stan Chiotti, Commissioner
John Brewington, Commissioner
Jerry Belcher, Commissioner

GUESTS

Carolyn Butcher

COUNCILORS IN ATTENDANCE

Keith Locke

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Woodruff at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Roddy made a **motion** to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2015 meeting. Motion was seconded by Blumenthal and approved unanimously.

TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR

Carolyn Butcher talked about having a disc golf tournament on October 10th and it would be a fundraising tournament for the Yankton Community Fellowship Church to raise money for a mission trip to Mexico. It is an open tournament that anyone can enter who is registered. It will be well-publicized on the web and newspaper and the McCormick Park Disc Course Facebook page and she has been talking with Jared Fischer about it and he is in favor of it. They have reserved the gazebo and a picnic area from 7am to 6pm but she doesn't think they will need the course for that long.

Houk said he thought this was just a private group that wanted to reserve the course and that was the issue. He didn't know it was an actual tournament and he doesn't see any problem with them having it. Woodruff said we can't approve her permit because they are just a recommending body. The group just has to reserve it and pay the fee and the Parks Commissioners don't see any issues with it.

NEW BUSINESS

New Commissioner: Woodruff welcomed new Commissioner Elisa Mann. Mann said thank you and she was really excited to serve on the board.

OLD BUSINESS

Free Library: Woodruff received an e-mail that the new free library that was installed by the docks is up and running. She walked by one day and there were more books in it than what she had original put in so it looks like it will be successful.

Pay Station Updates: Sheppard said the card reader is not working so the City is arguing with the manufacturer over it.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Blumenthal said Nob Hill is looking good and the grass is getting taller. He also wanted to remind everyone about the meeting next week for discussing what they want the waterfront to be. Locke said it is to discuss ideas they already have and hear any new ideas. The sale of the property should close at the end of the month.

Locke said he wanted to bring up something with Nob Hill Nature Park. He said they planted some trees in a swale that is a City street right-of-way that could possibly be turned into a future road. It is on the 3rd Street end in a little bowl right where the entrance is. Blumenthal said he has always been told that is park. He has never heard anything about a road possibly going through there. Blumenthal said they couldn't put a street through there because the other end of that area that was dedicated back to the property owner so the City would have to buy it back to be able to do anything. They gave him the face of the cliff. Locke said he would look into that. Blumenthal said he is going to have to get some neighbors together to go the meeting Tuesday to voice their opinions because he doesn't want their neighborhood that is now on dead end streets to become the entrance into a parking garage. Are they going to have big 6-7 story buildings down there that will block the view because the cliff is only about 30 feet high? He thinks he needs to talk to Jacob Graichen about this because he thinks those areas should be dedicated to the park because that is what has always been implied over the years to them.

Locke asked what the time schedule was on the splash park and Houk said he thought it was set from 9am to 10pm. Locke said he went by the night before and it was running and there was nobody around. He talked to a couple who were sitting there and they said they had been there about 20 minutes and no one had been in the splash park during that time. He stayed around another 5-10 minutes and it didn't shut off. Sheppard wasn't sure what the time setting was on the button.

Houk said the new roofs were put on the dugouts on field one at Campbell Park. Field two has been leveled. The dugout roofs haven't been done on that field because there are engineering problems they have to deal with. Most of the summer helpers started work today. They had to take down quite a few dying trees at McCormick. They are old maples and the tops are falling out of them. Little League came in and redid the t-ball field. It was graded and they will plant grass this fall. They brought in a bunch of top dressing for the infield, put in a new backstop and new dugouts. Woodruff said Little League is very good about taking care of their fields.

Sheppard said the contractor who built the docks at Sand Island in 1996 is going to give the City a price on repairing them.

COUNCILOR'S REPORT

OTHER MATTERS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 17, 2015, at 4:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheri Ingram
Secretary

2015 ATTENDANCE RECORD							
P = PRESENT / E = EXCUSED ABSENCE/U = UNEXCUSED ABSENCE							
Meeting Date	John Brewington	VACANT	Jacob Woodruff	VACANT	Stan Chiotti	Howard Blumenthal	Phillip Roddy
2/09	P		P		P	P	P
4/20	P	Elisa Mann	P	Jerry Belcher	P	P	P
6/15	E	P	P	E	E	P	P