



**Regular Meeting of the Park Commission
City of University City
Tuesday, June 25, 2013
Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Boulevard**

President, Ed Mass called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Members present were:

William Field
Steve Goldstein
Linda Peoples
Ed Mass

Rich Wilson, Director of Public Works and Parks
Lynda Euell-Taylor, Deputy Director of Recreation
Sandy Bradford, Executive Secretary

Alberta Garth (*arrived late*)

Excused Absence: Kimberly Jones
Kathleen Standley
Stephen Kraft, Council Liaison

Deposition of Minutes from May 21, 2013

Discussion to correct Vice President's name from Mr. Mass to Mr. Goldstein and questions arose if Ms. Garth was in attendance to the May Park Commission meeting, revised the minutes from Ms. Garth having an unexcused absence to her arriving late. Mr. Goldstein moved to approve the minutes of May 21, 2013 after corrections Ms. Peoples seconded, vote taken – all approved.

Discussion to eliminate verbiage of Mr. Mass presenting topics and change Mr. Fields name to Mr. Field. Will change sub-bullet topic on agenda under Old Business from Subcommittee Reports to Committee Reports.

Citizens' Comments not on the Agenda - None

Department Reports:

Public Works and Parks Updates

Mr. Wilson reported:

- Lewis Park – pump failed, it is under warranty and is being repaired and will be back in commission soon.
- Heman Pool – a few minor mechanical problems.
- Golf Course has an extra part-time seasonal helper.
- Miller Park restroom plans have been sent to MSD and to Community Development to obtain a building permit.
- Kaufmann Park Tennis Courts were approved. The resurfacing will be done, by the end of July.
- There are some safety issues at the Mehville Plaza. Great Rivers Greenway and the Economic Development Fund have given money to make changes and add some additional lighting.
- The Bicycle Facilities project – got preliminary engineering approval.
- The July 23 Park Commission meeting will be a Public Hearing held at Heman Community Center.
- Still do not have electric problem solved for the Heman Park Irrigation System.
- \$20,000 for Driving Range – will get it designed and ready for bid.
- Ackert Sign – (as an archway near the Mehville Plaza) has been approved
- Millar Park – submitted a Land Water Conservation Grant – the City gets \$75,000 and a local match is \$180,000.
- \$10,000 to look into Digital Message Boards to replace current signs – will do a study to see how effective it will be.
- Council would like to follow a new policy in the future. If applying for a Grant, ask council and the money can be taken from the Fund Reserve.

- Flood buyouts were discussed.

Community Development/Recreation Division

Ms. Euell-Taylor reported:

- Pool opened May 25th – attendance to-date is 5,504 visitors.
- May 30th Heman Pool celebrated its 80th Anniversary party. Lap swimmers were treated to breakfast and refreshments of orange juice and bagels. Public swim patrons had pink lemonade and cookies. Everyone received a commemorative cup and one free soda. Debra Jones was the winner of the raffle giveaway for a free after hour's pool party.
- June 5th was the summer camp kick off program parent meeting – with over 60 parents and campers in attendance. Camp starts June 10th with an average of 100 kids signed up for each of the four week sessions.
- June 7th American Red Cross did a blood drive at Centennial Commons.
- June 10th three (3) summer youth's started working at Centennial Commons and at the Pool's concession stand.
- The day of the flood, the fire department designated Centennial Commons as a temporary shelter for the flood victims. Red Cross donation food and blankets and comfort bags.
- The 30th of each month and the last day of the 2013 season (September 2nd) Centennial Commons will do a raffle and will give away five commemorative folding chairs for adults and commemorative teddy bears with a t-shirt that has U City Logo for children.
- The pool family changing room is now available.
- Monday night concerts started June 10th. Due to inclement weather, June 17th concert was canceled. Arts and Letter's is looking into rescheduling at a later date.

Council Liaison Report - None

Individual Park Report

- Ms. Peoples – Fogerty Park is being heavily used this summer. Ms. Peoples asked if the grass can be cut behind the back fence at diamond 8 in Heman Park.
- Mr. Goldstein – The grass is cut at Adams Park, looks good. Council approved to resurface the courts and need to look at replacing or repairing the fencing at Kaufman Park. Mona Terrace, the road about 30-35 feet along River De Peres bike path surface has eroded, the grass needs cut and some trees need to be removed. The signing at both ends seems to be inadequate (both signs do not say anything about Mona Terrace or Trail Head, etc.) which makes it hard to find.
- Mr. Field – Ackert and Metcalf Parks both look good. Golf Course is looking good, new growth on the bare spots at holes #7 and #9 are slowing coming in. Hole #8 and around it is still the same, nothing new done. Need to contact MSD to have some of the signs removed around the pond area – need to look into redesigning its purpose.
- Mr. Mass – Flynn Park still has an erosion problem around concrete seating area and the leaves are built up. Tetherball is being used but it keeps coming loose, needs to look into securing it better. A suggestion would be to have some work out stations (park course) installed in the park. Nothing to report on Jackson Mooney Park, it looks good. It was mentioned by a resident that Lewis Park needs more dog dropping bags, a new restroom and to think about putting in recycle carts. Needs a few more tables and the algae problem needs to be addressed.
- Ms. Jones – Heman Park is amazing and well used. There are some overgrown bushes in some areas. Inquired about having some bushes put up for safety reasons on the bridge by the baseball field and the playground area. *(sent a park report via email)*

Old Business

Golf Course Committee did not meet. Mr. Mass sent an email to all members and received no responses, will discuss at next meeting. Mr. Goldstein will schedule a meeting about the Park Master Plan. Park Commission By-Laws Committee has not met.

News Business

Mr. Mass is requesting a park grid table be created to see which parks have which playground for which ages. Would like the grid put on the website so it is accessible for people to view.

Adjournment

Ms. Peoples moved to adjourn. Mr. Goldstein seconded. All in favor - the meeting ended at 7:30 pm.