



**PARKS + RECREATION COMMITTEE
AUGUST 9, 2022 AT 4:30PM
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM, 4TH FLOOR
MEETING MINUTES**

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

II. CALL TO ORDER

The Parks and Recreation Committee meeting was called to order by Chairperson Holleman at 4:32 p.m. on August 9, 2022.

III. ANNOUNCE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Councilperson Travis Holleman
Councilperson Stacey Streetman

Councilpersons Wanda Allen, Wallace Redd, and Joe Shakeenab were absent.

IV. ADOPTION OF MEETING MINUTES

- July 12, 2022

Due to a lack of quorum, the minutes will be considered at the next meeting.

V. COUNCIL ACTION

None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

None

VII. OLD BUSINESS

None

VIII. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- [Vacant Positions](#)

Jennifer Letourneau listed the positions currently open within the department including Grounds and Facilities Maintenance Crew Chief, Event Planning Technician, Deputy Director, Event Planning Specialist, and Athletic Coordinator.

Councilperson Holleman asked how many vacant positions there were and how many were full-time versus part-time positions. Jennifer Letourneau responded that she would email that information to them.

Michelle Austin noted that all of the job opportunities are listed separately on a single page on the department's website.

- [The Hub](#)

Michelle Austin informed the Committee that the first monthly Hub event is scheduled for August 23rd. Michelle listed several of the confirmed partners including Diaper Angels, Meet Us at the Well, Matthew Walker Clinic, and SAFE. She asked that the Committee members help to get the word out about the event. Michelle also mentioned that United Way has been a great partner not only on this project but on all of the initiatives they've worked on together. The hope is to get to a place where when there is a need, we can mobilize and support each other.

- [Riverfest](#)

Michelle Austin reported that about 100 volunteers are needed for Riverfest. Michelle asked for the Committee's help connecting with groups and individuals that might be interested. She also noted that the full lineup of entertainers will be posted soon.

Councilperson Holleman asked how many of the bands are local. Michelle Austin replied that a lot of them are local and that an effort was made to highlight local talent. She further explained that the Entertainment Committee is made up of a diverse group of individuals from the community and all of the entertainment decisions went through that committee.

Michelle Austin also informed them that 20 food vendors have been secured for the event. She noted that there is also a committee, led by Shirley Brown, that helped select the food vendors.

Councilperson Streetman asked if patrons will be paying for food with cash or tickets. Jennifer Letourneau replied that the department will not be using tickets anymore now that the event is cashless.

Jennifer Letourneau inquired if the Council was entering a boat in the Cardboard Boat Regatta. Michelle Austin asked for the Committee's help getting the word out about it as well.

- Edith Pettus Athletic Fields

Jennifer Letourneau informed the Committee that the plan now is to have one regulation-size football field and one smaller practice field. A map was displayed and the layout was discussed.

- Pollinator Grant

Jennifer Letourneau reported that the department was awarded a \$10,000 grant to make a pollinator garden at Valleybrook Park that will serve dual purposes. They will use one of the slopes that normally need to be mowed and plant on it so that they won't have to mow it anymore. The Mayor's Youth Council will also use it as one of their conservancy projects

- Heritage Park Dog Park Grant

The department was also awarded a \$25,000 grant for new equipment at Heritage Park Dog Park.

- Greenway Update

Jennifer Letourneau met with Mark Holleman the previous day to discuss possible Crossland Ave connections.

Councilperson Streetman spoke to the mother of a Scout who has an Eagle Project they would like to do out at the Greenway if possible. Councilperson Streetman will be making an introduction soon. Jennifer Letourneau gave some advice on how they should proceed.

Councilperson Streetman mentioned that the golf scramble she attended at Swan Lake Golf Course recently was very well done. She thanked the department for everything they do and for allowing nonprofits to host their fundraisers there.

Councilperson Streetman asked for an update on the athletic complex at exit 8. Jennifer Letourneau replied that they should be starting on the road soon.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

*Meeting minutes were prepared by Leigh Harpel.
Minutes were approved on October 11, 2022.*