

TOWN OF COLLIERVILLE
Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Arts Advisory Board
May 11, 2021 – 5:30pm
Agenda

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Rhylander

APPROVE AGENDA Chairman Rhylander

REVIEW / APPROVE – April 13, 2021 Minutes Chairman Rhylander

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ITEMS:

1. 2021 Summer Programming Greg Clark

2. IDC Celebration – Update Greg Clark

DIRECTORS REPORT: Greg Clark

OTHER BUSINESS: Chairman Rhylander

ADJOURN: Next Meeting – June 8th



COLLIERVILLE
PARKS

Parks Advisory Board Meeting – May 11, 2021

Members Present: Joe Ennis, Maureen Fraser, Jennifer Moerbe, Dave Rhylander, Kathy Thiele, Jimmy Turner

Members Absent: Kal Bhavaraju, Corinne Derenburger, Micah Miller

Staff Present: Greg Clark, Tress Shields

Guest(s) Present: Laura Gillaspie

Dave Rhylander called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Jimmy Turner made a motion to approve the agenda. Kathy Thiele seconded the motion. The board approved the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Joe Ennis made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2021 meeting. Jimmy Turner seconded the motion. The board approved the minutes.

Public Comments

NONE

Items

1. 2021 Summer Programming – Greg Clark stated that we are on the way to getting things back to normal. He reported that all our senior programs have started back. We are opening our spray parks at Suggs Park and Johnson Park Monday, May 24th through Labor Day weekend. We will have signs posted encouraging social distancing. This year, we are not allowing large group reservations and birthday party reservations.

Greg Clark announced that we are expecting our normal summer tennis program. Tennis is one of the largest programs we have. We have senior exercise programs every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We have moved them back to the Linda Kerley Center (LKC). Pickleball is currently at the Cox Gym, but we are temporarily moving the program back to the LKC during the summer because we have scheduled basketball camps in the Cox Gym.

Greg Clark indicated that we will have registration for fall sports beginning June 7th. The Museum has Kids Storytime Friday mornings and a traveling exhibit coming this summer which is open to the public. We have three performing arts camps at the Harrell Theatre. Greg concluded that we will have a busy summer.

2. Independence Day Celebration (IDC) Update – Greg Clark recalled that at the last meeting we talked about moving the IDC to Halle Park and doing a fireworks only event. The staff went to the BMA work session and presented options to the board with doing fireworks only. There were discussions going back and forth about whether they would allow people on site. Ultimately, they decided not to have people on site. The BMA members were concerned about children around the lake and potentially getting/falling in the lake. They decided to remain at Cox Park and have a fireworks only show.

Greg Clark pointed out that Governor Bill Lee came out the next day and declared that it was time for Tennessee to open up for business. Town Administrator, James Lewellen had a work session that Thursday and talked with the BMA about IDC. They decided to go with our full fledged IDC at Cox Park Saturday, July 3rd with an audience, entertainment, food trucks, etc. Maureen Fraser added that the only thing we are not doing this year is providing shuttle buses. Greg mentioned that we might push the time back to start at 7 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m. He acknowledged that we have a lot of planning to do in a short period of time.

Director's Report

Greg Clark announced that our Tee Ball World Series is this Saturday (10 a.m.) at Johnson Park. It marks the end of the season, and we give the participants medals and provide hotdogs, chips, and beverages for the teams and their families. Greg informed that we did not open concessions this year at any of our complexes, and we did not receive a single complaint.

A citizen walked in the meeting. Greg Clark welcomed her and allowed her to speak to the PAB.

Public Comments

Laura Gillaspie stated that she is a resident of Gable Lane. Tara Oaks Park is directly behind her home. The concern that she and her neighbors have is that the parks is not getting mowed. She remarked that last year it was mowed about once a month, but it has not been mowed at all this year. The weeds have grown so much that no one goes out to the park. Last year, they saw more incidents of snakes in the area. She and her neighbors

have children, and they are worried about snakes and not being able to enjoy the park this year. She wants to know what the situation is with the mowing. Greg Clark explained that the maintenance of the park has transferred from Parks Administration to General Services. He told her that he would check with the director. He surmised that they likely have the mowing under contract and reduced the mowing cycle as budgets have gotten tighter. Greg told Mrs. Gillaspie to leave her contact information. He stated that he will have someone with the Town's General Services division contact her to try to get the moving back on track. Tress Shields wrote down her contact information. Mrs. Gillaspie thanked everyone for listening.

Greg Clark continued with the director's report. He reported that all spring sports will end before Memorial Day. Our first Collierville Arts Council production in over a year will take place this summer at the Harrell Theatre...*Mamma Mia!* It is July 9 -18. He added that we are having a few performing arts camps in June and July. The Friends of the Museum have purchased four new signs regarding the Frisco 1351 steam locomotive on the Town Square. We will have an unveiling of the signs this Friday morning at 10.

Greg Clark recalled that a few years ago the Parks Advisory Board talked about setting up a Friend of the Collierville Parks System organization. The board was looking into setting up a 501c3 nonprofit organization so that people could donate to do parks projects. Recently, Corrine Derenburger reached out to Greg about it. She informed that there are ways to do it without setting up a nonprofit organization. Greg admitted that he did not have the qualifications to talk about how all of that is done, but he told Corrine he would share the information with the board tonight. Then, he would put her on the agenda for the next meeting.

Greg Clark gave an update from the subcommittee meeting regarding locations for Cricket fields and tennis/pickleball courts. He received an email from Kal Bhavaraju who explained that they are playing at Nikki McCray Park because that is the only place where they can play right now. However, Nikki McCray Park would not hold a full size Cricket field, so they are doing an amended style of play because of the limited conditions they have. Greg concluded that they will continue to look at sites for the fields and courts.

There was no other business. Jennifer Moerbe made a motion to adjourn. Kathy Thiele seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.