

Trenton Park Board Meets

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News

Posted by : Randy

Posted on : 2013/6/6 6:52:38

The Trenton Park Board recently met with a full slate of topics to discuss. Here is a report on their activities.



A Trenton resident, Pat Hauck McWilliams, has donated fifteen hundred dollars towards the planned tennis court project at Moberly park. One thousand dollars of that donation is in memory of Phil Hauck, Vera Cross, and Grover Senf. Five Hundred dollars is in honor of Trenton residents Mike Bosley and Carl Carpenter.

Mrs. McWilliams, in a letter, mentioned many hours spent enjoying the former tennis courts at Moberly park. The donation was announced at yesterday's Trenton park board meeting.

The deteriorated tennis courts at Moberly park were removed with plans to someday have a single tennis court, basketball hoops, and a hitting wall at that location when funds are available. The project has been in the planning stages for an extended period of time. A park board committee is to be involved in fund raising efforts.

The park board received a request from Jennifer farmer to use the livestock pavilion near the rock barn for a farmers market this summer. Ms. Farmer was told she needs to get permission from the fair board since it oversees that area. The park board did vote to allow a farmers market to use the rock barn area if it's okay with the fair board. The park board has no charge for such usage. Ms. Farmer said she hopes to have a farmers market on Saturday mornings.

Ms. Farmer and Trenton community developer Ralph boots both indicated they have talked with a few persons who are interested in selling items at the farmers market. Others interested should contact ms. Farmer. Boots said he's glad ms. Farmer is organizing the farmers market. The city of Trenton is seeking additional grant money to help pay for the construction of a proposed facility near five points to house a farmers market and other activities.

Boots noted, even if the grant application is approved, the facility would not be constructed before the end of this Farmers market season.

Bids were sought last month to provide labor to install doors at the rock barn---with the park department providing the materials. However, no bids were received. So bids again will be sought. If no bids are received this time, the park department is to find someone to do the work.

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The next step in renovations at Mark Griffin Memorial Ball Field is installing an irrigation system when the ground is dry enough to do the work.

The park board voted to seek bids to enlarge the dugouts and improve the appearance of the dugouts, seating, and scorers/announcer area at Griffin Field. Bids are to be sought in two forms, with and without the use of blocks. That's to have cost comparisons. Park board member Duane Helmandollar and park superintendent Jason Shuffler led the discussion regarding those proposed improvements.

Shuffler described it as dressing it up to look like a Championship field.

Jack Griffin of the American Legion attended yesterday's park board meeting and was given permission to use Eastside Park for Independence Day activities. Griffin said plans call for a morning car show with food available, barbecue and mud volleyball during the late afternoon and evening. Griffin mentioned Brad Chumbley is to have kettle corn that day and provide music prior to the fireworks display scheduled that night at the fairgrounds.

The American Legion activities called fun on the fourth are similar to last year. The exception is moving some of them from the heat of the day to the evening hours.

Attendance and revenues at the Trenton Family Aquatic Center are down sharply so far this season compared to the same period a year ago. The pool has been closed five days already this season because of the cool weather. The air and water temperatures have to be at least 70 degrees for the pool to be open. It was mentioned applications are being accepted for swimming lessons.

Park superintendent Jason Shuffler said the pool heater has been on since the week before aquatic center opened this season.

On another topic involving the aquatic center, Shuler mentioned payments for the facility's financing are ahead of schedule.

Shuler said Ryan Allnut is completing an internship this summer with park department. Allnut is seeking a parks and recreation degree through Northwest Missouri State University at Maryville.

On the subject of baseball and softball programs, Shuler there have been problems getting games played because of rain. He also said Marla Stratton is doing what he called a great job organizing and stocking concession stands.

The park superintendent said an aerator costing eighty-nine hundred dollars has been used on all the ball fields. He said the approximate cost to have the work performed by contract would be at least six thousand dollars. The aerator purchase was described as a very worthwhile investment.

Shuler also discussed an employee safety training program he's developed for the park department. It covers the safe operation and preventative maintenance of vehicles, mowers, a skid loader, tractor, and ATVs. Shuler said all personnel have attended the training and signed documentation.