

**PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

December 10th, 6:30 P.M.

Arnold Recreation Center

Roll Call: Dave Lane, Gary Plunk, Dave Crutchley, Teresa Kohut, Bill Moritz, Gary Luebbers, Susie Boone, Molly Curcuru, Heather Wegge, Bob Furkin, and Tim Schwierjohn,

Excused: Brian Waldrop, Garry Luebbers, Sandra Kownacki

Absent: Cricky Lang

Approval of minutes: Motion made by Gary Plunk and seconded by Heather Wegge to approve minutes as submitted. Minutes from Oct. 1st, 2012 were approved unanimously.

Business from the floor: None

Staff Reports:

Pomme Creek Golf Course:

Tim Schwierjohn reported that there were a lot of things going on. Equipment Lift has been ordered and installed. It is safer and more efficient. Council approved the ordering of the fairways' and greens' mowers. Staff is working on routine maintenance to other equipment during the off season such as oil changes, steering alignments, etc. Staff has been working on pulling part of the pine trees that were dying and replanting as well as grass filling and composting and trimming the trees on the front 9.

Tim reported they are getting bids on installing a water line on Hazel Dr. This would allow the purchase of water at a more economical rate.

Staff has been working on a few concrete areas: the #9 green with the pull off area as well as the #14 and #17 greens with the pull off areas This will help alleviate traffic jams in that area.

Other projects that have been worked on include the millings by the #7 green and #14 fairway.

Staff will be building one or more concrete bins. They will also be adding rock and mulch for additional parking.

Bill Moritz asked if there was room for the mowers under cover. Tim reported that there was.

Bob Furkin reported that golf is up across the country by 7.4% this past year. Golf at Pomme is up and Bob credits the reduced fees and warm season.

Staff reported that Pomme had 29,200 rounds this past year and 21,000 rounds for the prior year. Heather Wegge asked if this was an increase in revenue or volume. Bob reported that it was both.

Bob also stated that he thought it was a result of the great shape the course was in. Heather asked if it was time to raise rates. Bob stated they could visit that possibility.

Bob stated that the first quarter had started good for Pomme and it was up from \$116,000 last year to \$129,000 this year.

Bob also stated that the membership drive in December expects to take in between 40-50K. Gary Plunk asked what the membership discount was for the drive and Bob said it was 15% off annual memberships.

Susie stated that a good amount of merchandise has been sold and credited the new vibrant items that have been brought in. Susie also stated that she would hesitate to raise rates on the fees. Gary Plunk said he thought it would be best to let the rates ride. Susie said she thought the staff had done a good job with the Golf Course operations.

Bob reported that the Saturday scramble has been successful with as many as 100 participating. The Tournaments have also increased with the Arnold Rotary Club, Fox Hockey, Immaculate Conception, Fox JV Invitational Cardinal Glennon and Concordia Snowball tournaments scheduled.

Heather Wegge asked about how the requirement for alcohol purchase from Pomme has affected the tournaments. Staff reported that the discount offered to tournaments has went over well and been an additional incentive for tournaments.

Dave Lane asked about whether U.E. had taken down any of the trees at Pomme? Staff answered that they had taken down some by the #11 tee and the #18 fairway.

Park Projects:

Dave Crutchley reported that 3000 foot along Bradley Beach road has been graded and improved. They hope to finish the rest of the grading this year.

Staff has been working on repairing the grates for the inside and outdoor pools. New energy efficient lights have been installed at the Recreation Center which should save between \$5-7 thousand per year in utility costs.

Staff has turned in plans to Govero for the Ziegler Property and the Ozark Property is waiting for demolition.

Dave C. reported that 2 trucks have been ordered and should be in by January. Also, Council approved the order of a track loader from Fabick and that should be received tomorrow.

Susie stated that the Ziegler property may be a good permanent home for the Farmers Market. There are thoughts about phase 1 being a garden with Family Plots with phase 2 to include a comfort station with a playground with ADA accessibility. Govero will submit a plan which will then be submitted to Mary Holden and then to City Council.

Susie said it will take approximately 6 Weeks and should be started on around Feb. 1st. Bill Moritz stated this is something they have been pushing for a long time.

Recreation Center:

Molly Curcuru reported that the Recreation Center is currently running a membership drive that offers 15% off annual memberships. She also reported that the Family Fun night which was held on November 30th and. attracted 456 participants. It was offered from -6-8 pm and offered free trial mini classes as well as free swimming and access to the facility. It also featured a rock climbing wall in the gym.

Staff reported the Recreation Center will also be upgrading their computer software during February.

Susie reported the MPM pool management contract has been extended.

Susie also stated that rentals were up for Arnold Recreation Facility

Special Events:

Teresa Kohut reported that a Trunk or Treat was jointly sponsored by the City of Arnold Parks Dept with the Arnold Chamber of Commerce on October 26th.. There was approximately 4000 trick or treaters who attended. The Chamber and merchants provided the trunkers and also staffed the s 'mores area. The Chamber also provided a large movie screen with dance instruction. The Parks Department and the AAVP provided parking assistance, hayrides, bonfires, concessions, and maintenance for the event.

Staff reported on October 27th, a Howl-0-Ween Dog Pawty was held at the park. Approximately 50 dogs participated as well as seven rescue groups and eleven vet and pet vendors. Concessions were served by the Parks Department with the help of the AAVP.

On October 27th, the Final Fall Harvest was held at the Farmer's Market. A band played and free pumpkin decorating was hosted by the AAVP and the Parks Department.

Staff reported on November 21st the Gobble Gobble Run was held and approximately 1,100 runners participated. This event is held by the Tourism Department with the support from the Parks Department, AAVP, and City Hall employees. A portion of the proceeds were donated to the Arnold Food Pantry.

Teresa reported the Breakfast with Santa event was the largest breakfast the Recreation Center has held with over 260 participants. Participants were provided breakfast from Denny's, craft opportunities, pictures with Santa and a goodie bag to take home.

Staff reported that during November and December, the Parks Department partnered with the Arnold Jaycees to collect toys, food, and hygiene articles for needy families in the area. Patrons brought their articles to the Recreation Center to be turned over to the Jaycees.

Staff reported the Senior Holiday Luncheon will be held on December 14th. There are approximately 100 people signed up for the luncheon. The luncheon is being sponsored by Devin Ploesser with Edward Jones and the meal is being catered by Weber Front Row Grill of Arnold.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Susie reported that due to new regulations, part-time employees would be limited to 28 hours per week and that any violations of that would result in penalties to the City. She said that the regulation would mainly affect Park Department employees. Susie also reported that a new minimum wage would go in to effect on Jan. 1st of \$7.35.

Tim Schwierjohn requested that a policy be put in place at Pomme Creek which is common at most municipal golf courses. The policy allows Golf Superintendents, Golf Pros and Parks Directors to play at no charge as a courtesy. Tim would like to see that become policy at Pomme Creek Golf Course. He mentioned that it is a way of promoting Pomme Golf Course among peers.

Heather Wegge made a motion to recommend that the policy become policy at Pomme Creek Golf Course. Gary Plunk seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Election of 2013 Officers:

Dave Lane made a motion that Heather Wegge be President of the Parks and Leisure Services Board. Gary Plunk seconded the nomination and the nomination carried unanimously.

Dave Lane made a motion that Gary Plunk be Vice-President of the Parks and Leisure Services Board. Heather Wegge seconded the motion and the nomination carried unanimously.

Next Meeting: Feb. 4th at 6:30 P.M.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn by Gary Plunk and seconded by Heather Wegge

**Respectfully Submitted,
Teresa Kohut
Adm. Assist. Parks and Recreation Department
City of Arnold**