

**BLAIR COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022, 8:30 A.M.
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, BASEMENT**

Public meetings are being held both in-person and by conference call. To participate in the meeting please dial 1-408-419-1715 or 1-408-915-6290 and enter meeting number 2468097683#

Meeting Called to Order:

President Keller called the meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

- Joe Keller, President
- Tim Hite, Vice-President
- Galen Bickel, Secretary
- Fred Miller, Member
- Phil Riccio, Member
- Chuck Gojmerac, Member

Absent:

- Mike Hofer, Central Blair Recreation Commission Director

Others Present:

- Samantha Rogers and Johnathan Preston, AYSO Representatives
- Paul Shaffer, Public Works
- Jim Pooler, Maintenance
- Amy Webster, Liaison Commissioner to the Advisory Board
- Melissa Harpster, Commissioners Office

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes:

President Keller called for corrections or changes to the meeting minutes of January 22, 2022. **There were no corrections or changes noted.**

Motion by Phil Riccio, seconded by Galen Bickel and unanimously approved to accept the minutes as prepared.

Mr. Keller stated that the meeting for the month of February 2022 was cancelled.

Acceptance of Treasurer's Report for the months January and February 2022:

President Keller called for the Treasurer's Report.

Melissa Harpster presented the treasurer's reports for the months of January and February 2022. Mrs. Harpster stated that Assistant Finance Director Sarah Chuff prepared the reports.

Motion by Chuck Gojmerac, seconded by Phil Riccio and unanimously approved to accept the treasurer's reports for the months of January and February 2022.

Sign Replacement:

Discussion held regarding the addition of property line, removing the pavilion and amphitheater rates from the Rules and Regulations page, and sending a draft to Grant Will, in GIS for review and comment.

Trail Signs:

President Keller stated four-4 quotes were solicited for trail signs; however, only one-1 quote was received. He stated the quoted amount was \$5,920.00.

Discussion held as to whether wooden signs may be a better material option for use at the park.

Discussion was held regarding contacting the Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center; the prison system Big House, Boy Scouts, etc., to see if any of these programs would be interested in making the signs.

No action taken on the acceptance of the one-1 quote received for trail signs.

Hazardous Tree Removal:

President Keller presented discussion concerning the need to have someone evaluate the 20 to 30 trees near the church that need taken down. Perhaps we could reach out to DCNR for recommendation.

Discussion followed regarding whether or not there is timber to harvest.

DCNR Grant:

- **Progress Call:**
Joe Keller stated that he; Adam Long, Melissa Harpster and Nicole Hemminger have a telephone meeting scheduled with Cheri from DCNR on Wednesday, March 9 to discuss the procurement plan and timeline of the construction project since it is to be spread over a two-2 year period.
- **Band-shell:**
Melissa Harpster stated that she forwarded Adam Long the contact information for the representative at General Recreation (a Co-Star's vendor) to contact for a price quote. She stated that Adam had previously obtained one-1 quote from another Co-Star's vendor.
- **Sponsorships:**
Joe Keller requested that Melissa Harpster email the advisory board members the sponsorship letter drafted back in 2020 for review prior to the April meeting. He stated that it is the goal to solicit \$50,000.00 in sponsorships in the amounts of \$1,000; \$3,000; \$5,000.

Mower/Tractor Repair

Paul Shaffer stated the leaks were repaired and the mower/tractor is being put back together. He stated there may be additional repairs needed and there is \$244.00 remaining of the \$600.00 allocated for the repairs.

Streambank Stabilization Project

Joe Keller stated a meeting needs to be coordinated with Paul Shaffer (Public Works), Jim Pooler (Maintenance) and Donna Fisher (Conservation District) for some time during the month of April 2022.

NEW BUSINESS:**AYSO**

Samantha Rogers presented discussion concerning the future of AYSO and Valley View Park Soccer Fields.

She stated that she would provide an updated schedule as requested by the board, however, the schedule for fall would not be complete until at least August.

Fred Miller recommended that when she provides the updated schedule she also request an extension on the submission of the fall schedule.

Discussion followed.

Pavilion Rental Fee for 2022

Joe Keller presented discussion pertaining to increasing the pavilion rental fee for 2022.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Tim Hite, seconded by Fred Miller and unanimously approved to keep the rental fee at the current rate of \$65.00 for the 2022 season.

Use of Amphitheater and Pavilions 4 and 5

Melissa Harpster asked if she should take reservations for pavilions 4 and 5 and the amphitheater for the 2022 season or if demolition and construction of the new amphitheater would have an impact on use of the areas.

Discussion followed that neither demolition nor construction of the new amphitheater would affect the use of pavilions 4 and 5. However, we may not want to make reservations for the amphitheater, due to the uncertainty of demolition.

Groundskeeper Rehire Process for 2022 Season

Paul Shaffer stated this item would be addressed at the next Salary Board Meeting. It is his understanding that both Dwayne's are returning to work for the 2022 season.

2022 Summer Playground Program

Joe Keller requested approval for the allocation of \$4,500.00 of the Park and Recreation Reserve Account for the Central Blair Recreation & Park Commission to conduct the 2022 summer playground program at Valley View Park during the period of June 13, 2022 through July 8, 2022 from 9 am until 3 pm M-F.

Tim Hite stated he had some questions regarding the program i.e., how many kids attend, how is the program promoted, is there a fee, if so how much, does the Park and Recreation allocation cover the cost of the entire program, etc.

Joe Keller stated that prior to the board taking action on the request; he would reach out to Mike Hofer for answers to Tim's questions.

Discussion followed.

Summer Concerts in the Park Series

Joe Keller requested approval for the allocation of \$2,500.00 of the Park and Recreation Reserve Account for the Central Blair Recreation & Park Commission to conduct the 2022 summer concerts in the park series.

Discussion followed as to when the amphitheater may be demolished. Joe Keller stated he would have a better project timeline to provide to the board at the April meeting. No action taken. Item held for discussion at the April 2022 meeting.

Resignation of Sue Kovensky

Joe Keller requested approval of the resignation of Sue Kovensky from the Park and Recreation Advisory Board effective January 6, 2022.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Galen Bickel, seconded by Chuck Gojmerac and unanimously approved to accept the resignation of Sue Kovensky from the Advisory Board.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Joe Keller called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Galen Bickel, seconded by Chuck Gojmerac and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.