



811 E. Centennial Avenue
Muncie, IN. 47303
(765) 747-4858
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Superintendent: Carl Malone

Muncie Park & Recreation Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 16, 2023
City Hall Auditorium

- (1) Call to Order
- (2) Pledge of Allegiance
- (3) Roll Call
- (4) Approval of the minutes from (April 2023) Park Board Meeting.
- (5) Superintendent Report – Carl Malone
- (6) Parks Programming & Park Event Approval – George Foley
- (7) Prairie Creek Report – Dustin Clark
- (8) Old Business
 - Grant Update
- (9) New Business

- (10) Action Items
- (11) Public Input – (3) minutes limit – Please state your name and address.

*** Next Park Board Meeting – Tuesday, June 20, 2023 (6:00 p.m.) - City Hall Auditorium**



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Superintendent Report

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Muncie Parks and Recreation has been busy with mowing, pruning and weed eating in our Parks. Park staff have been trouble shooting and making repairs at all our parks. We have an on-going sewer problem at McCulloch Park restrooms, city sewer maintenance has been called out to provide expertise advise as we continue to trouble shoot our system.

Westside Park

- Westside Park – We have replaced our 4th metal roof.
- Softball Field improvements
- Made restroom water line repairs.

Tuhey Pool

- Tuhey's lap pool motor replacement
- Tuhey's Security plan in progress (Legacy Life Security Solution)

Thomas Park

- Thomas Park handicap strap removed and replaced.
- The waterline was repaired.

McCulloch Park

- Handicap straps were replaced.

Tuhey Pool

- Muncie Skate Park Renovation – Early Fall
- Halteman Park Pickleball Court completion – Early Summer

If the Parks Board have any questions, please feel free to contact Carl Malone at the park office (765) 747-4858 or cell (765) 749-8490.

Carl Malone
Superintendent
Muncie Parks and Recreation

Muncie Park & Recreation Board Meeting

May 16, 2023 6 p.m.

City Hall Auditorium

- 1. CALL TO ORDER-** Brad Marshall called meeting to order at 6:00p.m.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – All stood for the Pledge
- 3. ROLL CALL-** Present were Brad Marshall, Shannon Powers, Mark Ervin, James Lutton and Chandra Parks.
- 4. APPROVAL OF APRIL BOARD MINUTES-** Vote was taken by all Board members present. Motion carries. Motion approved by all members present.
- 5. PRAIRIE CREEK REPORT – Dustin Clark**

Dustin started by thanking the Board for allowing him to go out of order as tonight is the Emergence at Innovation Connector. It is one of the final review days and as they are on scholarship, they appreciate being able to attend.

Dustin introduced Jordan Rodden, the new Operations Manager at Prairie Creek. Jordan stated he has had a trial by fire but knows things will get better. He has participated on the dock leases, is learning the invoicing system and is learning the ropes from the staff and asked that he be able to reach out to the Board members as well for any guidance or advice if needed.

Brad asked Jordan to give them some insight into his background. Jordan stated his last position was with the Indiana State Museum and was a Regional Director for four historic sites on the eastern side of the state. Before that he spent over 25 years as a Financial Advisor and managed some offices as well. He's very anxious to become familiar with everything that's going on with Muncie. The Board welcomed him to the team.

Dustin reported all of the docks and piers are in at Prairie Creek. They are currently updating, fixing, repairing and doing what they need to do to the wooden piers and making adjustments to the new floating piers. There's some settling in time but they

have been getting a lot of positive feedback about the new piers. They have started mowing. He, Junior and some of the summer staff will start removing some of the old wooden steps, old tires, walk boards and decking. Those will start popping off shortly to open up for fishing. Due to the nice weather we're getting a lot of people out for fishing.

It was alluded to last time but as a reminder, they did finish the floor in the shower house, which has also gone over well. Next they are looking into exterior renovations of the shower house, so it will be an ongoing project as we continue to renovate buildings on the North Shore. We are entertaining bid packages as we move forward with the gates for pier safety as security will be paramount coming up as we move into the season. We are looking at accelerating that schedule. The original goal was to collect revenue, stabilize ourselves and get a Phase II in place as we move forward. We are probably going to accelerate the gates a little bit. It will be an expensive proposition. There is not a definite total on how many that's going to be. At minimum it will be 13 but more likely we will go ahead and do Phase II, which means we are probably looking at closer to 28 at the cost of roughly between \$5 – 7,000 each.

Shannon inquired if he was discussing the gates at the entrance to the park or the piers. Dustin confirmed he was discussing the gates at the piers but was glad she brought that up. He stated they are still working on the gates at the entrance to the park. They were midway through that project and the company they were working with had some success with a side project and became preoccupied with that endeavor. They are still waiting to complete that project and are waiting to push to complete or move on to another company. We would like to give them another opportunity to finally complete it. James interjected about last year there being an issue with I&M coming out and wondered if that had been resolved and Dustin stated it has. Dustin stated someone got a little too close with their vehicle and do damage to the main one at the security shack and they are waiting on repair parts that only come from that distributor and we're waiting for the final pieces and connections now that Indiana Michigan Power has put up the power poles. The power poles for Wind Surf and up north are good to go, so now we are just waiting for the company to finish the project. James asked what they are still waiting for on the gates. Dustin replied there are some replacement pieces they have for the security gate and we are waiting for the final pieces for the wind surf. We are not completely over the hump on getting what is needed and if we do not get them we will have to move on to another vendor. James inquired how deep we are in with the current vendor and Dustin stated he could email some figures but it warrants trying to finish with them. They are very close to ship us some final parts, making some connections and replacing the broken pieces at the security shack and he would like to see them close out the project instead of starting with a new company. James added they should be accountable for the work they said they would do and Dustin agreed stating they are being patient as the season is just beginning. Shannon inquired if they gave an

estimated completion date and Dustin stated their last communication they were coming in from out of state and they had hoped they would be able to get back to us but that has been two or three meetings ago.

Dustin stated three people have signed paperwork for the new ones and we still have ADA spots available. He urged people to come out and sign up for them as we would like to see them all full.

Brad inquired if there were any additional questions for Dustin. James inquired about the trash conversion from the totters. Is the campground supposed to be using the totters or the dumpsters? Dustin stated the totters are being phased out, the dumpsters are in place and should be used. They're trying to do a transition where they will go from always having their totters to having to use the dumpsters. James added a lot of people are still using the totters and inquired what the dump schedule is right now. Dustin stated they are working with Muncie Sanitary as we no longer have a truck. James stated some of them smell pretty nasty so if we're not going to be running a route we need to get those totters out of there, since people are going to fill them up and soon we won't be able to lift them. Dustin stated Muncie Sanitary, John Barlow and Phil Reagon have been working with them and they've already done one run around and will do one or two more for them as we slowly phase those out and move to the dumpsters full time. We can ask for a final dump and Muncie Sanitary will bless us and come out with their truck with the mechanical lifter. James stated we should put something out for the campers letting them know what the process is going to be. Dustin replied the process is dumpsters. Brad asked how soon we can get rid of the totters and make them go away. Dustin replied as soon as we can get Muncie Sanitary out with their equipment. Brad stated if we are going to the dumpsters, we need to get rid of the totters so there's no confusion and James added we don't need to pay for both. Dustin stated we are only currently paying for the dumpsters. Brad stated to make the totters go away and Dustin asked if he had a timeline or if he wanted them to gather information and submit it. Brad stated he thinks as soon as possible and prior to the holiday would be good or else they will be full and overflowing.

Brad asked if anyone had any further questions and James inquired about the mowing and if we can make the rental spaces, the campground and the playground a priority. Jim stated there were kids out there this past weekend that are probably five or six years old and the weeds were at their waists. Dustin replied in the affirmative and added Mike, the seasonal mower just came back and that is his job three days a week.

James asked if we could set up a protocol for when someone has an electrical issue, post numbers or something as he recently experienced that issue for two and a half days. Luckily, I am friends with Ashley and neighbors out there, so have her number but not

everyone does. Dustin stated security should already be on the phone out in the evening. Dustin confirmed they did lose a leg of power to a few sites and did an after-hours call to Avery Electric who set up a temporary fix of 2 power poles to run additional power from a sub-station but we would like to eventually remedy the entire electricity situation. They expect to have it resolved tomorrow and will make sure the after-hours number is posted. James commented Avery did a fabulous job on the repair. Brad inquired if they expect to ask some campers to vacate in order for the repairs to take place. Dustin stated they are not attempting to do a wholesale move out but those repairs do require people to move out during the winter and we'll trench, current estimate of 300 feet and we need to trench it down and put in the proper wire. So it will cross a couple of lanes. James inquired if they will put in the upgraded wire and Dustin stated that will be a discussion that we will have to move to the forefront of when do we tackle a wholesale north shore fix. They will put everything in according to code as Avery does a fabulous job.

Shannon asked about last October when we asked several people to vacate, and whether all of those projects completed sans the electrical issue. Dustin stated they were not as we have people who have not yet vacated and that's an ongoing issue between them and the City, which is being handled by legal. We were able to get the majority of some of the work done but the upgrades to water and electric weren't able to move forward as we had hoped, as we spent more time trying to get people out than making repairs. Shannon asked if this season, before winter, we could give people more time or notice, so they know well in advance. Dustin asked what she meant by more notice. Shannon replied based on her notes from last year, people were given 30 days' notice to move, that they received letters. Dustin asked how much time she would like them to look at. Shannon suggested possibly three months' notice, since several left comments that 30 days wasn't enough time. Dustin responded 30 days on a mobile camper with everything mobile, he could see how that would be an issue to not be able to pull out your camper. Shannon stated she agreed with him. Dustin replied if 90 days is what we need, then we can work towards that.

James asked as we start these plans to upgrade stuff, if they will know the sections they are working in, roughly. Dustin stated that's a much bigger conversation before he wants to attempt to answer that question. He thinks that has a lot to do with the bidders. That has a lot to do with the plan. If we are accelerating we need to know what are funding sources are, see where the revenue is going to stand, cause how much we are going to spend on a wholesale fix all at once, and just rip off the band-aid. Are we going to do street by street? Are we going to reallocate the size of lots? Some people have small lots, some people have large lots, but they all pay the same amount of money. All those questions come out of the woodwork when we address that and I think you need to get funding first and then we can tell from funding are we going to do this in a phased approach, are we going to do this wholesale, are we going to do this half and half. Are we

going to provide them something? Are we going to try to get it done for just between winter? Are we going to have multiple contractors? Is this going to be a Pridemark, national bid package or are we going to try to do it in house with Public Works, Street Department, etc. Brad interjected he thinks we're talking about two different things here. We're talking about the major overhaul and James interjected that's what he was getting to. Jackie has monthly/bi-monthly meetings with the campground, maybe we can keep them updated on what we're thinking. That way someone can have it in the back of their mind because they should be able to get their things out in 30 days. Dustin stated if not, we can move to the 90 days' notice. We can make the goal 90 days' notice before not offering winter storage.

Chandra inquired what the outcome was regarding the pier renewal from the last meeting for Laura Amlin and the mail issue. Dustin replied it turns out she did receive information from us. She was allowed to participate in the lottery but her name was not drawn. Dustin stated they've had several of those people. Shout out to Tawny and Brittany, they have done a fabulous job of trying to integrate the reservation system. They have sat with people on the phone and gone through all the settings, all the dates, and reviewed the timeline of documents and emails with clients. A lot of those were resolved to our satisfaction. If there are still people out there with concerns, please come to us and we'll work with you. As far as that goes, the new system shows us when we send an email, what time, to what address, who it was sent to, when they opened it, if they viewed it, and if they signed it. We get alerts all along the way.

Brad asked if there were any other questions for Dustin. There were none.

Brad stated he attended the Friends of Prairie Creek last Friday. It was a good meeting overall. They had a lot of comments and a good turnout there. He believes everyone got a highlight list from them and the Board members can review them independently and put it on the agenda for next month to discuss any open items listed. Safety was a big one. Understanding the new docks. Trash was questioned and spring upkeep as usual. He stated he and Dustin have already reviewed several of them but the rest of the Board can review them and talk about them next month unless something jumps out at you, that you want to discuss now.

Shannon inquired if the phone in the office is working now. Dustin replied they have talked to IT about not retaining a land line anymore as there may not be any saving the system we have now. We may be moving to a full cellular system. We've talked to Adam in the IT Department and we are looking at the possibility of no longer having a land line.

Brad asked if there were any other questions for Dustin. There were none.

6. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Carl Malone, Superintendent

Carl stated he didn't have his glasses and that's why he is squinting. He further stated he didn't have a lot to discuss tonight.

The Parks Department staff has started the mowing season and we do not have our volunteers or seasonal workers helping us out. We have been trying to mow as much as we can but due to the rain are playing catch up. He rode around to several parks and saw several that were high. Westside Park being one. There was a family out using the shelter and the grass was kind of high. If you're riding by and you see that, and if it was your family would surely have something to say about our mowing and how we get that done. So we expect to be caught up this week. We've started assigning some weed eating jobs and some pruning starting Friday.

Other than that, we've been out trying to troubleshoot some of the problems we've been having in our parks. One of those is the plumbing in the McCulloch Park bathrooms. The sewer lines are backed up and I've reached out to Harvey Wright. He and his team came out for two days and put the camera down to try and locate some clogs. They weren't able to do so as it showed they were getting clear airway from one pit to the building. Carl went back in over the weekend and it was full of sewer. It's an ongoing problem that we're not sure how to solve right off. But what we don't want is to have Back to Muncie here in July and have a major issue at that location considering how many people we are going to have there. So it is on our radar, we have some plumbers coming out to take a look at it, so we can keep the Board and Deputy Mayor updated as we figure out what's going on with it.

The other thing has been playground equipment. As you all know, most of our playground equipment is very old and needs to be replaced. We've got a couple of phone calls about ADA swings that needed repair. We've gotten some straps in to repair them at about four parks that need them. We have someone going down tomorrow and making those replacements. Most of our mulch levels are low, mulch is pretty expensive depending on how much you need. I looked out our parks and most are very low. We need mulch in almost every park to be in standard with the compliance. I was called into an investigation meeting the week before last about an incident that occurred several years ago at Tuhey Park regarding the height fall of the slide. It was before our time, but we still were asked about our current parks, so we are trying to make sure we do inspections on what we do have. For example, out at Halteman, some of the mulch is under the playground and that can be raked out and put in some of the other areas. So, we've been busy keeping our eyes on our playground equipment, so we don't have any injuries and won't be susceptible to lawsuits.

Westside Park, we are in the stage of repairing our shelters there and putting the last new roof on. We have three new metal roofs, with one remaining and have made some improvements there at the softball diamond as well. There's been some calls to George and his department in reference to playing softball there. Ball State was out using it for kickball the other night and have a group interested in playing on Thursday nights, so we need to get it in playing shape.

Tuhey has an ongoing history of issues when it comes to motors and are in contact with Buddenbaum who our contract is with for opening and closing the pool to get things in writing, to have permanent language. This will help determine liability for motors under warranty, if it's something on our side, we didn't do. Or something on their side. The motor for the lap pool currently needs to be replaced and it's a pretty good size motor. Last time it was a two-man job, it took a wench, and we had to hoist it up to get it out for repairs. We thought we could do it with a one-man team, but it takes two. We're waiting for them to come out and make that repair for us.

Tuhey's security plan – we're trying to have security due to the fact we've had increases in incidents at our parks. We had an incident at Cooley Park that resulted in a stabbing. We don't want that at Tuhey, so we have trained security personnel that's currently working in the Muncie Community school system. I have been in contact with Robert Scaife to work out the details of what that would look like. Then I will sit down with the YMCA to see about it as well. We definitely want to have security in place as we open up for Memorial Day weekend.

Thomas Park, we have made some water line repairs. There was an incident that happened by the tennis court, where the water line was busted as they were doing renovations, so we had to do some repairs there. There was also a secondary line that had been running for a while, that was due to bust, so in making the initial repair we went ahead and repaired the secondary line as well. When we spoke to the water company about the bill, she said it ran about three times what the bill usually is. So, we went ahead and repaired the main and secondary lines that feed the shelter building and baseball field area. We also are repairing the ADA swing at Thomas Park as well.

McCulloch Park also had a strap issue on the ADA swing. We also have shelter issues there too. One by the top of the hill and one down at the bottom. I was in contact with the Deputy Mayor to talk about the cost and what we want that to look like in July when it comes time for Back to Muncie.

Riverview, as I know it from the email that was sent out from the Whitley Neighborhood Association to Dustin, they are requesting an update on progress, status and timelines. I

think Dustin is prepared to meet with them to talk to them about where we are. I know we were initially delayed due to the state approving the flood plain.

Other than that, we are looking forward to National Parks Day and George will speak about that. We are getting Heekin Park squared away and ready.

Brad asked if anyone had any additional questions for Carl. There were none.

7. PARKS PROGRAMMING & EVENTS – George Foley, Program Director

George stated he would like to start with the events first, so he could get this one person up and out of here. George introduced Julius Anderson who has an event coming up on October 7, 2023, Men Leading Men. They had the event last year at McCulloch Park and its purpose is calling men to pray for our city, state and our country. The expectation is to have about 150 men show up. There will not be any vendors but they are requesting to have the bleachers, sound system and the use of Cabin 6. We are making the recommendation to waive the fees for use of the equipment as they are partnered with a 501c organization.

Brad asked if there were any questions and if there were none, they could take a vote on approval of the event.

Vote was taken by all Board members present. Motion carries. Motion approved by all members present.

Brad stated if the guys wanted to speak and share information, they could. He knows it was a great event last year and hopes it is an even bigger event this year. Mr. stated they don't know how many men they will have but they hope to have at least 150 and they are so grateful for the support they have received from the Board and Carl and his team. He stated they looked at three other venues, but nothing compares to McCulloch Park. The ease of getting in and out of it, the beauty of being there on a Saturday morning, is just absolutely amazing. They are so appreciative and thank you very much. Julius Anderson added they are under the umbrella of the Muncie Mission, and the beauty of this whole thing is the light. There is a bright light in Muncie and when you bring men together. We had 120 men from different ministries last year and expect more than that for this year. We're looking at not only Delaware County but surrounding counties as well and we have been getting some action from them. He thanked the Board for their support as they build up Muncie through McCulloch Park.

Our second event comes from Grissom Elementary. They would like to do an event at Cooley Park on August 1, 2023, for one hour, from 5 – 6 pm. It's a Back to School event

and they are expecting 400 people to attend. They will provide security from Legacy Life Security Solutions and will have one vendor that hasn't been determined yet. They are requesting to have port-a-pots at the event since the bathrooms are not open due to the destruction that has taken place. I spoke with Mr. Page and I believe they are giving away some back packs and school supplies and will be having games for the kids.

Shannon inquired if we need to rent the port-a-pots and George stated we could use our own. Shannon inquired if we are going to have them pay for them and George stated they said they would pay to fill them.

Brad asked if there were any questions. Chandra asked if they would have security and George stated they would be using Legacy Life Security Solutions, which is Robert Scaife's company that does security for the schools. There were no additional questions.

Vote was taken by all Board members present. Motion carries. Motion approved by all members present.

The last event is from Halteman Village Neighborhood Association, requesting to have their event on June 24, 2023, at Halteman Park. It will be a community outreach, family fun day, and they expect to have less than 100 people. They will not be having security but will be having a food truck which they will decide on at a later date. They are requesting port-a-pots or to have the bathrooms open and to have the splash pad on. They requested a fee waiver as they are a 501(c)(3).

Vote was taken by all Board members present. Motion carries. Motion approved by all members present.

Brad asked if there were any other events and George said there were not. Brad asked him to continue on into the programming update.

George stated he would like to start with the NFL Flag Football League. At this moment, we have enough kids for 8 teams and will be taking registrations for a few more weeks. We've reached out for sponsors through our social media pages and I would like to thank our sponsors which include The Law Office of Carman L. Malone, CRM Concrete, Red Elephant Digital Media, Jasmine Long Bail Bond, Plant Studio Landscape, Future Choices, Delk and McNally, Bad Boy Bail Bonds and NAACP of Muncie Branch. They have all contributed \$250 as Gold Sponsors for the program which allows us to buy the uniforms for all of the kids, which includes a t-shirt, shorts and socks for the NFL team they are playing for. I would like to thank those sponsors for investing in our youth and in the community through this program. There will be a meeting for the coaches tomorrow at Cabin 4, that I plan to attend, and we are getting ramped up for that at Ball

Park. We do have online registration for it which I like as we are able to share other events with the parents via email.

We've been busy with the summer program as well. We've interviewed all of the kids and have them in place. We have confirmed Northside will be our hub and confirmed transportation to all the work sites by MITS, other than Second Harvest as one of our leads will have to drive the van as they are outside of the city limit. Everything is in place. I would like to thank MITS for providing transportation. Second Harvest has called and will be doing some food distribution on one of those days for the kids and their families that first week of the program. Some of the families may need it and we want to thank Second Harvest for doing that. We have all of our staff hired and are just awaiting their background checks. As we have been receiving them, we are sending them over to Human Resources as well. We will be meeting with The Mayor in a couple of days, so he and the Superintendent will be making a pretty good announcement about the program.

On to baseball. We are having a Baseball Camp and a Softball Camp at Gainbridge Field. The Baseball Camp will be in the morning, Monday – Friday and Softball Camp will be in the evenings. Baseball will be from 10 – 12 and softball will be from 6 – 8 pm. We're doing what Cal Ripken requested by getting the kids out on the baseball field and doing some programming, showing them the fundamentals of both sports. Signups have been going good as we're doing them online. We've been invited to some of the schools and events and have been signing up kids for programming.

One last thing. I gave all of the Board a flyer as we will be doing an Adult Softball League this summer. We've been hit up on social media about it, so we're putting it together. I've been working with Casey Bell and the Fire Department and we will start on June 11th and it will go until August 13th. All of their games will be played on Sundays, so they won't interfere with us doing programming or with the travel teams playing on the field. We're going to do 10 teams, at \$300 each. Each team will cover the referees for the day and provide their own softballs. The funds paid will go into the foundation. They will play by the National Softball Association rules and will have a coaches meeting to discuss respect of the field and the rules. We've already signed up five teams and plan on doing ten. If all goes well with the league, we may have a fall league and possibly a co-ed team and a church league. That's a good investment for the parks and gives people activities to do at Gainbridge. The money we get from that we would like to put into the foundation to build it up and help cover the costs for materials and supplies.

Brad asked if anyone had any questions for George and there were none. Chandra commented there's a lot of good things coming up. Brad asked what George was doing with all his free time and George replied he hasn't had any lately.

George reiterated Saturday is National Parks Day and he would love to see the Board out there and bring their family members. Thrive is setting up a station to do face painting, a gentleman is doing balloons, we will have bounce houses through A1-Fun, food, popcorn and hopefully we can get a kickball tournament going and have a youth basketball tournament as well. Just a fun family day and us announcing to the public the great things that have been going on in the parks and what we plan on continuing. So that will be at Heekin Park, this Saturday from 12 – 4 p.m.

Chandra commented the adult softball is going to be a make or break for the weak and strong and George agreed. They will be playing from 12 – 9 p.m. and we think having the Fire Department and the Police Department out there will help keep things cool.

8. OLD BUSINESS –

Brad stated there was an update on the grant proposals that Shannon wanted to share.

Shannon informed the Board, the Parks Department was approved for a \$10,000 grant from the George and Frances Ball Foundation to assist with Baseball and Softball Youth Leagues. Particularly to help with buying some of the bigger ticket items, like a pitching machine, cages, netting and catching gear. We also were notified last Friday, we were approved for the Ball Brothers Foundation grant in the amount of \$45,000 which crosses over many different sports and needs for referees, coach's fees, pay for learn to swim programs. It will also pay for two very safe storage units for all of this equipment we are purchasing. Pays for security guards. This is seed money to help pay for things that aren't necessarily in our budget. Things we need to consider for our next budget. We also received notice this afternoon that the Community Foundation of Muncie and Delaware County approved a \$40,000 grant for an additional upgrade for the Skate Park at Westside Park.

Brad thanked Shannon for all her work on the grants as they have been a great benefit for us.

Brad asked if there were any questions about the grants or updates and there were none.

Also on Old Business, that didn't make it onto the agenda is open swim. Dan stated he wanted to update the Board on what's going on and as a side note this summer is the 27th Summer Sizzler which will be held at Tuhey Pool by the Cardinal Swimming. We've been partners with the Parks Department and the City of Muncie for a long time. This summer we are holding the Open Water State Championship. The older kids will be swimming 4 kilometers which is 2 miles. The next group is swimming over a mile and the younger kids will swim half a mile. They all have to make their cut to qualify so they

aren't just tossing them out there. Shannon inquired about the date and he stated it was June 27th. He stated they've coordinated with the DNR because as soon as there are people in the water, it might interfere with the boat traffic. It's a 90 day process and we're through that with them and they are on board with it. We showed them our safety plan and Chuck from the YMCA who helps out with the Iron Man Triathlon, is our Safety Director. Laura Caudill who helps train the Prairie Creek lifeguards for open water is one of our coaches. We're coordinating with parents to ensure we have enough boats and kayaks to have proper coverage out on the water. We are working with USA and Indiana Swimming as we have to get our plan approved by both of them, for the safety of the sport and the swimmers. We're videotaping all of the kids. We have ankle bracelets like they use in triathlons to count them as they go in and out the water. We do pictures of the kids as they go in and come out. Because it is a dual use bathroom/locker room we will block off the locker room for kids only during certain periods as they are getting ready. And we will have monitors going in and out of the bathrooms. We will have two food trucks who are getting their permits from the Board of Health to provide food. And we're working hand in hand with the Parks Department to make sure it is a successful event. We have security and City EMS will be there. They are predicting 250 swimmers coming with their parents, but he will be happy with 125. Shannon inquired about the age range and he stated 10 years old up to 22 but more of the middle teens participating.

He stated there are people coming into Prairie Creek to practice ahead of time, so we're working with a local group to make sure people will have experience swimming out there. He spoke with the Rotary Club this morning and they will have volunteers there. He will be speaking to the other Rotary Club on Friday. We spoke to Optimus Equinus as we're trying to get a good mix of the community supporting the event and he thanked the Board for being a part of it. We want to make this an annual thing as it brings people into Muncie, putting people into local hotels and getting to our restaurants for a State Championship like this is good. The next jump from here is the National competition.

As a side note, thank you for the River Greenway. My son is out there training for his triathlon through Westside Park and I get to sit there under the trees watching the river go by as he's cranking out his 24 miles. We have a great park system and I am proud to show off Prairie Creek and everything else we have.

Brad inquired if anyone had any additional questions for Dan and there were none. Brad said if he remembered correctly this event was approved in the November meeting and he was just giving us an update. Dan replied that's correct and he just wanted to keep the Board in the loop of what's going on.

Shannon inquired if he had dates on the Cardinal Summer Splash. Dan stated he believes it is the Saturday before and Shannon replied that one will need to be approved as well. She wasn't sure if Coach Tony wants to come in front of the Board or if Zach Aniker wants to. If we could do that now since it's before our next Board Meeting and Dan looked up the date to confirm as he doesn't usually pay attention to dates. He stated it is June 17th and 18th. He apologized the paperwork hadn't been submitted in time. They typically provide lifeguards and concessions. One of the things we do is provide swim lessons to kids on reduced or free lunch as part of our cycle of swim lessons. We just finished a set and have another two this summer at Tuhey.

Shannon stated there are usually about 100 participants and Cardinal Swim Club pays us to utilize the pool. Those will be the only dates that the pool will be closed to the public until August 5th when MAGNA has their employee day. MAGNA moved that back so we wouldn't have the pool closed for 3 days in June/July.

Brad inquired if there were any additional questions for Dan and there were none. Brad stated he would entertain a vote as long as Dan and/or Dr. Powers made sure the paperwork got in. Dan said he would complete it and get it in a.s.a.p. Shannon stated it is actually in our approved contract with them. Brad stated no vote was necessary.

Brad asked if there was any additional old business. Mark asked Carl about the vandalism situation in the parks and if there was anything they could do to help him with that, as he knows it is an ongoing problem. Carl responded they've been in contact with the Neighborhood Associations and asked for the neighborhood to keep an eye out and help keep us in the loop as it relates to vandalism. He hasn't heard much about in the parks but once you open up the restrooms it's a different issue. The last he looked at Cooley, the plumbing was pulled away from the walls and that's why we initially locked the doors. He stated as he spoke to others at the conference, they are having this issue all around the state. It's not just Muncie as several other cities are fighting the battle of figuring out how best to handle it. He asked Courtney Marsh, of Southside NHA, if there was anything else she could think of and she stated the vandalism has decreased as they haven't had to go out there and paint lately. She also stated they haven't seen a lot of kids out there doing anything they or the Board wouldn't approve of. They have a few people that monitor Cooley Park specifically and we're very sad about all of the things that just happened in the last week or so. We're hoping those families are able to work through those situations. But in reference to restrooms and vandalism, we haven't seen very much over at Cooley Park, which we're very excited about. We're looking forward to the splash pad being open and people going out and enjoying their time at the park. Sounds like we are going to have a few events there which she is very excited to see. But in reference to the restrooms specifically, them being closed down creates a concern for families that are going there and spending the day, not having a restroom facility. But with the damage that has been done, it's taking a toll financially, to go back in and keep

replacing these items. And the costs versus the want sometimes doesn't really balance out. So we've talked about offering port-a-pots as an alternative.

Brad asked Courtney not to go anywhere as she was up next.

Brad stated the other item under old business was the historical designation of Heekin Park. We talked about that a little bit last month, and you and I spoke a few weeks ago in regards to that and I've also reached out to Industry and South Central. I haven't heard back from them yet, but if Southside has anything to share, support of that would be great or any thoughts. Courtney stated they put a little survey up on their Facebook page, as we have quite a nice following and received a lot of likes and loves on the post. We didn't get a lot of comments, unfortunately. She did have a question in reference to designating it a historical park, and wondered if Shannon could help her with it since she does grant writing. She wondered if it would impact how we were able to apply for grants and which types if we were able to designate it as a historical park. Shannon said it broadens the horizon of the types of grants we can apply for. Courtney stated that is one thing she wondered, was if it would be an additional help to our parks in any way. Shannon stated what would really help any proposal is having people from the community fill out a survey about what they want and envision, which she could take care of. She stated they love utilizing Heekin Park with all its history, down to the bricks that make up the sidewalk. She stated she would love for it to have that designation as there are at least 12 different spots you can go to inside of it to learn about Muncie history. Shannon stated they needed to get in touch with Brad King of Community Development as he runs the Historical Society and he would be our go to person in the city to help with that. It's an exhaustive process but he is the first person we need to speak with. Courtney stated once the survey is complete she will push it on their Facebook page.

Brad asked if there was any other old business to discuss, and there was none.

9. NEW BUSINESS –

Brad asked if there was any new business to discuss, and there was none.

10. ACTION ITEMS

Brad asked if there were any action items or events to be presented to the Board from the public and there were none.

12. PUBLIC INPUT – Please limit time to 3 minutes.

Jackie Sciscoe – Friends of Prairie Creek. Jackie stated most of what she wanted to discuss was already covered and Dustin isn't here to answer a lot of their questions. However, she did want to make a point of thanking Brad for taking time out to come to

our meeting this weekend. He took a tour of the campground and the docks on Friday and came back out on Saturday to go down to the sailboat club and get a lot of questions answered and get some good information. They really appreciate him taking his time and showing an interest out there. A lot of times it's speaking but your actions speak louder than words and a lot of people noticed that you were spending time out there. And we appreciate it.

A couple of things she wanted to bring back up are the toters that Jim brought up as that was on our list. She inquired about keeping them at the park as it gets a lot of trash in that area and fears if we only have a big dumpster we will see more trash. And also at the boat area as we have the new piers and have opened up bank fishing, so we're seeing more people out there, and no place for them to throw away their trash.

Another thing she wanted to point out, thank you to Shannon for pointing this out earlier, is listening to what the campers said in October, which was communication. We have huge issues with communication out there, so thank you to Brad for coming out and listening, thank you to Jim and Shannon for actually listening and acknowledging our concerns out there. Another thing about the floating docks. Joe came out and spoke during our meeting and gave a lot of information because people are concerned about the floating docks. We are using him as a resource and he has offered to give some additional training.

She also addressed the dump area behind the boat dock which has turned into a scrap yard/ junk yard you can see when driving down to the beach from the main road and it's a huge eyesore. So we did want to point that out as well.

Those were the main ones she wanted to point out that didn't get covered earlier. She asked if the Board had any questions for her. Brad stated he didn't have any immediate discussion as he was there at the meeting. It was a good meeting, very positive and a lot of people were engaged. He thinks the relationship there is getting better and improving, and thinks as we get through the year it will get better. He encourages the Board members to review the topics and they can have some discussions individually and then bring things to the next meeting. He appreciates all their work and engagement out there. Jackie added their next meeting is July 7th at 7 p.m. in the Community Building at the campground.

Brad asked if there was anyone else on the list or anyone else for public comment. There were none.

Carl thanked the foundations in town for being so generous. In the three and a half years they have been in office they have done a ton of work taking on something that has been neglected for 40 – 50 years. We don't have a programming budget and we only have the one Program Director, then you have Nikki and myself, 32 parks and a pool. That's all

we have staff wise and we don't have a budget to support all of the events as we try to grow programming. So he wanted to say thank you to the Board for all the things they have done, in a short period of time. And to Shannon for working on the grants, to Nikki in the office helping George and I out as we are not in the office. She's taking the calls and being on top of that. That teamwork there and then George in the Program department and we know there's a lot more work we have to do in our parks but we've gotten a lot done in these three years and have so much more to do.

The Board thanked Carl for all the work he's done and is sure he's already started working with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on making plans for the budget next year. Carl stated, he and George met with them a few weeks ago. He is not sure how many changes will happen in 2024 and expect changes in 2025. We will try to stay ahead of those things and maybe the Mayor can meet with the Board to discuss our needs and concerns. They agreed and Brad stated even if it isn't immediate increases but some adjustments to line items that might be helpful to help quantify things a bit better as he knows Tuhey doesn't have separate GL lines and neither does mulch.

Carl added the Skate Park, once the bids go out, they expect to start construction in August. And as far as the pickleball courts in Halteman are getting close to the final phase. The fencing will go up and then they need let it sit about 30 days before they can come in and paint.

James asked if Carl had heard anything on the Tillpond Grant and Carl stated he had not, other than the last update the Mayor gave them. Brad stated based on the last emails he was cc'd on there was some paperwork and procedural things going on, with the assumption we will receive the grant. Historically if the state makes the recommendation to the Federal the chances are likely the granted will be awarded. He stated it is his understanding from the Mayor they plan to develop the area in some way even if they do not get the grant.

Meeting was adjourned by Brad Marshall, President.

*** Next Park Board meeting is currently scheduled for June 20, 2023 at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium.**

Friends of Prairie Creek

May 12, 2023

Campground	Docks/Reservoir	Miscellaneous
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Security/Safety</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Gates b. After hour phone number c. Essential on nights and weekends d. Kids driving golf carts 2. <i>Mowing</i> 3. <i>Communication</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Office doesn't answer phone b. No response to emails 4. <i>Large Logs</i> – from trees that were cut down 5. <i>Map</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Road names b. Lot and dock numbers 6. <i>Trash</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Are campers using dumpsters or totes? b. How often are dumpsters emptied? c. Will there be trash totes by Park & boat docks? (especially on holiday weekends) 7. <i>Holes filled</i> 8. <i>Online Reservation System</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Add campground Map b. Add Pictures of campsites 9. <i>Community Building</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Leak b. Large wood chair 10. <i>Park</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Overgrown with weeds b. Mulch 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Security and enforcing dock rules</i> 2. <i>Communication</i> 3. <i>Floating docks</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Spacing b. Tying up boats <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Require appropriate line (size & type) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Between boats - Between boat and dock ii. Require use of fenders c. Non-dock holders on docks d. Accessories -price list and when will they be available e. Three cleats f. Educating dock holders 4. <i>Workorders</i> 5. <i>Windsurf Beach</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Are boats still allowed to pull up to the beach 6. <i>Signage for docks</i> 7. <i>Completion date for docks</i> 8. <i>Clean up old wood docks, poles and tires be removed</i> 9. <i>Repair damaged wood docks</i> 10. <i>Mark tubing area</i> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Communication</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Not answering phones at the office 2. <i>Maps and rules</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Daily/weekend campers b. Visitors 3. <i>Trash truck and sewage truck</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Causing damage to the asphalt roads 4. <i>Dump area at the Boat Ramp</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Eye sore from road

Park Board Meeting Public Input Sign In Sheet

Date: 5/16/2023

Name (Please Print)

Address

1. Jackie Scirca
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
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6. _____
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12. _____