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Superintendent: Carl Malone

Muncie Park & Recreation Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 15, 2023
City Hall Auditorium

- (1) Call to Order
- (2) Pledge of Allegiance
- (3) Roll Call
- (4) Approval of the minutes from (July 2023) Park Board Meeting.
- (5) Superintendent Report – Carl Malone
- (6) Parks Programming & Park Event Approval – George Foley
- (7) Pickleball Court Rules
- (8) Tuhey Bath House – National Historic Preservation Registry
- (9) Prairie Creek Report – Dustin Clark
- (10) Friends of Prairie Creek
- (11) Rates for PCR 2024 and operating hours proposal for pickleball courts
- (12) Old Business
 - Update on Timeline for Skatepark
- (13) New Business
 - Funding Raising Proposal for Skatepark
 - Prairie Creek Rules 2024
- (14) Action Items
- (15) Public Input – (3) minutes limit – Please state your name and address.

*** Next Park Board Meeting – Tuesday, September 15, 2023 (6:00 p.m.) - City Hall Auditorium**



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Superintendent Report

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

Riverview Park Update

- Construction for Riverview Park is in full swing. Timeline TBD.

Park Staff

Muncie Parks and Recreation staff have been busy beautifying several of our Parks. Urban Forestry team has been removing, trimming and watering trees.

Park staff have been mowing, pruning, and weed eating at our parks. Two of our staff members to Ft. Wayne for playground certification training, on August 21-22, 2023. Also, the staff have been busy with Tuhey and at other parks with the issues with the geese population. They are cleaning up for events where we have issues with the geese.

Halteman Community Park

- Pickleball Court Community Participation has increased at Halteman Park. We have created signs to hang up about rules with the pickleball court and courtesy use of the courts for people waiting to play Pickleball.

Riverview Park Update

- Construction for Riverview Park is in full swing. Timeline TBD.

Heekin Park

- Muncie Memory Spiral Grand Opening will be August 26, 2023 at Heekin Park, time will be from 2pm-4pm at the corner of East 12th Street and Heekin Park.

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

August 15, 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 JULY BOARD MINUTES-** Vote was taken by all Board members present. Motion carries. Motion approved by all members present.
- 5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Carl Malone, Superintendent**

Riverview Park Update – work is in full swing now. There's been a lot of work done with Dustin Clark and his consultants to get things going. The neighborhood has been waiting to see the outcome and timeline on when that will be done. I spoke to some residents, as they had their meeting last night, which I wasn't able to attend. They were given a timeline about the completion of the project and I think this are moving in the right direction.

As far as the Parks staff, we have been busy mainly beautifying parks, pruning, trimming trees and doing whatever catches our eye in our city parks.

As far as Halteman, there's been a lot of activity there since the pickleball courts were installed. A couple of times I've gone by and there were lines of people waiting to play. George will come up a little later to talk about some rules and there are some people in the audience as well that want to speak about them as well.

We have 2 staff members going to the Playground Certification Specialist training this month in Fort Wayne, Indiana. So we're excited about having some of our staff be able to go out and inspect our equipment. There's calls that come in from time to time about some of our playground equipment and the fact we need to replace a lot of parts,

sometimes we don't always see the small detail things that can cause an injury. So we want to make sure we are making inspections on our playground equipment.

At Heekin Park we have the Memory Spiral Grand Opening event coming up on the 26th. The Rick Zeigler Foundation will be hosting the event at Hackley and Memorial from 11 am – 5 pm. There will be games, activities, guest speakers and a lot of community involvement during that time. We'll also have two cabins open for overflow. Cabins 3 and 5 will be available.

We are having an issue with our geese population. Tuhey has been fighting the geese all summer. Muncie Central is fighting it as well with their new artificial turf football field and track. We've also had to clear our basketball courts at a couple of our parks, quite a bit. It's really a health concern for me and others. We're trying to figure out how to address that problem but that's really something we have to deal with.

Shannon inquired why don't we try the Kool-Aid? Karl stated we are still waiting for our order of Flight Control. It's just been a slow process of getting it in. We were hoping to get it in about a month or so ago so we could try it out and see how it works. It was recommended by other Parks Departments while we were at the IPRA Conference, so decided to get some of it and try it. We have kids playing and tracking it in and around the playground equipment and into the pool. It's just unsafe and unsanitary. Just an unhealthy environment for us to have our kids playing in, so we really need to get a handle on it. We've had complaints from individuals on the walking trail or just out trying to exercise about having to step around it. So it is a big issue.

Brad inquired if there were any additional questions for Carl and there were none.

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

George stated he would like to start with requests for Park rentals.

The first is Halteman Village Neighborhood Association is wanting to have a pickleball tournament this Saturday, August 19th from 8 am – 3 pm. It's a fundraiser for park improvements that Halteman is doing. They are expecting 36 participants and spectators. They are seeking a waiver for security as Sgt. Kessler has agreed to assist with security for the event. There will not be any food vendors. Materials requested would be one port-a-pot to deliver on the side of the basketball court. They have requested a waiver of the fees related to the port-a-pot.

Mark stated he agreed and security is a good idea in this day and age. They will need to make arrangements for protection of those in attendance more than anything. He would

also favor whatever the rental is for the stage and chairs. He hates to do it but believes we have to be consistent with everybody and there are so many worthy things. If people paid a nominal amount of rent pursuant to our policy, that means we could have more events as there would be a better budget and there's more money available for the parks. Shannon added we're already providing the facility for free, the parking and all the wear and tear that comes with that. They could go to another rental agency to get the equipment, so she thinks we should be consistent with it.

Brad asked if they provided any other reason for the fee waiver request other than them being a 501(c)3 and just responded just that it was a community event they've been doing for years and have had the support of the city. Brad stated he would encourage them to look for some sponsors to assist with the fees. Brad stated he would entertain a motion for approval with security required and fees are not waived for equipment requested.

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

The next event for approval is Just Jeepin' Delaware County which is signed by Stacey Marlow. It will be a car show with vendors at Westside Park on May 11, 2024 to benefit the Muncie Animal Shelter. They expect about 100 people to attend. They will have food vendors and they will send them through the Health Department. They will also have vendors there to sell items. They are not requesting any items from the Parks Department. They are inviting the Police and Fire Departments to the event. All money collected will be donated to the Muncie Animal Shelter.

Shannon asked if when they say Fire and Police have been invited does that mean they are providing security and George replied he did not know at the moment. Brad inquired about the hours of the event and George replied it is 11 am – 10 pm, an all day event.

Shannon asked if we can get clarification from Stacey Marlow about whether security will be provided and George stated we can.

Brad asked if the Board wanted to vote or table it as the event isn't until next year, so they have time to get the answer about security.

The event was tabled until the next meeting on September 19, 2023.

George stated he didn't have a lot to talk about regarding programming. But he did want to thank City Council for inviting him to speak last Monday. They invited him to come and talk about programming we've done for the kids and I invited some to come and

speak to City Council about what they had gotten out of the program regarding financial literacy, gun violence, etc. They did way better than what I expected. They made it sound like I coached them but I didn't. I just invited them to come talk and I mean some of them they talked about what they got from financial literacy, what they got from gun violence. One gentleman talked about how he was cloudy at where he went to go in his career but after working with ecoRehab he wants to go in the skilled trades. So that was good to hear. So Brad is also a part of City Council. So I want to thank City Council for giving us a platform and giving those kids the opportunity to talk and do some public speaking. They all did a great job. Carl and I we're really happy with the way programming is going in that particular program. And so I've been talking with Shannon, we're trying to find some ways to get some additional funding. We met with the Deputy Mayor. So we're already in the planning for next year. We have some meetings with Ball State who want to participate and help out in the program next year. I want to thank all of you guys because it's really going in a great direction right now with this program for the youth. So looking forward to next year. So I appreciate everybody that participated in that.

We do have some fall events this year that I just want to bring up. Of course we have fall soccer and we've already started registration with that. We'll be out there helping with parking, Carl and myself, for the event because parking is always bad and it's kind of like an overflow lot we can use. Sign up is going good for that right now. We also are taking sign-ups for Girls Softball. That'll be a three day clinic that we're going to do again. That'll be for three days in the middle of September. We just finished with the Men's Softball League which went really well and so they are requesting to have another league. So we just started sign up for that for the fall, which would be for eight weeks and we're also going to do co-ed softball this year too and we're going to use Thomas Park and Gainbridge Field for the games. The games will probably be Tuesday, Thursday and Sundays for the softball.

So, we're in fall programming now. I had a little bit of a break and now I'm back at it again. I'm trying to do some more programming. We may do something for the youth during the Memory Spiral event. Carl and I are still talking about doing some type of giveaway for the youth during the Memory Spiral event at Heekin Park. So, everything is going good.

I cannot think of the gentleman's name right now, but we did have a Fireman who got hurt. He got hit by a ball while playing softball. He got hit really bad in the eye. I just want him to know that we're praying for him and hope he gets well pretty soon. He got hit pretty good. He's played softball for a long time. So, we're sending our prayers out to him and hope he gets well soon.

Other than that, are there any questions for me?

Chandra asked if we work pretty closely with the Muncie Community Schools and George stated, yes, we do. She inquired if he's noticed or have there been any maybe numbers or statistics on how this programming has affected the youth in any way? George stated, we haven't yet added it's funny she said that because he just talked to the deputy mayor about that today. We would like to go into those schools and get those numbers from those kids and see how it affected them. And he also has been speaking with Rhonda Ward and also signing some of those kids up who want to go skill trade up for the MACC program out there. I have been talking with them about that program but yes, we need to put some numbers together so we can show that. Chandra asked when he gets that information could he present it to the board and George replied he would.

Shannon inquired if next year we could do a pre and post survey and George stated that we do have one but it's more about the program. It's just asking them what they would like to see different from the program, what they liked and did not like. You know, they may say they don't like the fruit that comes with the lunches, but other than that, we don't get too many complaints about the program as a whole. But they do give us ideas about, especially on mentor day, about topics they would like to hear and talk about. Yeah, those are great ideas. So, thank you.

Brad asked if there were any more questions for George and there were none.

7. PICKLEBALL COURT RULES – George Foley, Program Director

Brad asked George not to go too far so we could discuss the pickleball court rules. He also acknowledged there were guests in the audience who would like to speak on the topic as well.

George stated he designed some signs for the pickleball court at Halteman Village, and I did them in four different colors for you. I did some research of some rules and Carl gave me some literature too about some rules for pickleball courts. We have a similar sign at the baseball field at Gainbridge. It's just a little bit different. If there's any changes that you feel like we need to make, we can make them and send them to Advanced Signs. They usually print those signs for us and then if y'all can just instruct us or Halteman Association, where would they like those signs hung up and how many do they feel they need at the pickleball court?

Brad stated, in addition to these, I know there was an outreach or request to have some operating hours associated with the pickleball courts. I think that's part of the reason the Halteman group is here and didn't know if we wanted to have that discussion or if they had a presentation or anything for us as well. George added he did send it to JP and

he approved what he liked. The only thing Carl suggested was we put the hours of use on the Pickleball court. So, I can add that too. He asked were those suggestions by the Superintendent or are we taking hours of suggestion by the neighborhood? Carl stated we can take suggestions from the neighborhood association.

Brad stated he would love to hear their experience and what they've seen on the court so far and then what they've learned and how we can implement this across all the parks as we continue to make improvements.

JP started by thanking everyone and George for presenting the event request and thank you all for approving that. I'll apologize as I'm assuming you guys wish you would have maybe a little bit more advance notice of the event, but things are happening very quickly. In regards to our campaign which is currently under the way, it is a second phase campaign at Halteman Park. You know, I'm assuming most of you are up to speed about what we've been doing there the last few years, but currently we have 11 days to raise right around \$8000 for our second phase and the second phase includes a pickleball court, benches, picnic tables, some more play equipment at the park that's maybe catering a little bit more to toddlers and younger children, some shade structures.

So, we've been talking in the neighborhood for well over a year about what the second phase will look like. So I want to thank you guys for all your support and please support us over the next 11 days so we can hit that goal. If we are successful in raising \$35,000, we will leverage a further \$40,000 and then we have other avenues that were approaching for additional support mainly around the concession building, the former concession building that is currently operating as a bathroom right now but needs a lot of help. This idea for this event was kind of put together over the last few weeks. Thanks to Lisa Goodpaster and others. Again, we're trying to get to this goal by August 26th. So, thank you for supporting that request. We're hoping it's going to raise a little bit of money. It's not going to meet the gap unfortunately, but it's going to help. I think it exposes the project in the park to everybody in the city and beyond.

In regards to the pickleball courts we're kind of learning a lot as we go here. I think we're very fortunate, we have some folks in the neighborhood and hopefully you'll hear from them here in a little bit, who are very well versed in pickleball, the sport, how this is being done around the country. They've looked at other pickleball courts and parks and so there's two things here I think we're trying. We're being reactionary because there's been some issues at the park. And then we're also trying to be a little bit proactive for the benefit of city parks and for the neighborhood. The hours request is a reaction to some incidents that have happened at the park. There's been some vandalism at the bathroom building. There's been multiple incidents of vandalism, let's just put it that way.

There's actually been some issues at the pickleball courts, literally a day or two after they were opened. We think it's mostly children or younger individuals who aren't aware or familiar. Somebody caught one of them, you know, a kid bouncing on the Nets and essentially stretching the Nets out, which is a big no, no. And another kid took a loose piece of concrete and was scratching into the surface of the pickleball court. So, in that case we're trying to figure out what do we do here. We don't know and we're here to listen to you and take guidance from you all. But we figured that, you know, ours might be an appropriate way to kind of solve this issue. We also have learned in doing some research that pickleball can be somewhat noisy.

I don't think it's going to be a big issue at our park because it's only three courts, but some of these pickleball places have multiple and that sound can really travel very far. So, we're attempting to be respectful of our neighbors. Especially the neighbors who live directly adjacent to the courts. We picked 8:00 just because we felt like that was somewhat reasonable. You know, it's not too early. So, if you're getting ready to go to work or take the kids to school, you're not being bombarded with traffic and the pickleball sounds. And then eight in the evening we thought was also appropriate. You know, it's not too early. We felt like it was late enough where it was reasonable. That was kind of the idea, that's been the discussion. It's not something that we just threw out of thin air. We've discussed this on and off over the last couple months. We're trying to bring something reasonable before you all to consider, but it's ultimately up to you. We're learning through trial by fire and doing some research on our end and we see what's happening at Halteman as being kind of a Guinea pig situation. What we learn you guys can apply to other parks around the city. I appreciate George's efforts and Carl's efforts with the signage. I think the designs I have no issues with. The language could be discussed. And I don't know, maybe allow John at some point to maybe talk a little bit. John's kind of our expert pickleball aficionado and he's been instrumental in getting this event going forward for the Saturday, spread the word. I do think the cutoff for signing up is tomorrow, but we have around 22 folks who are playing and again we think the event is also something that could be duplicated elsewhere in the city if interested. A neighborhood versus neighborhood pickleball tournament at some point. So, we'll come forward though with a request when that comes.

I'm going to let John talk about the specific language he's got rationale for why we're maybe presenting the specific language to you all and then to kind of build upon these issues of the vandalism and everything else there was. I think this was the reaction for the neighborhood was to perhaps lock up the courts temporarily until we could figure out a long-term solution. I'm not saying whether or not that was the appropriate thing to do, and I think it's ultimately up to the Parks Board and in the Parks Department. But there is a gate with the ability to lock it, and I think the neighborhood is open and willing to assist the city in the Parks Department with managing some of those. And

there's been some discussion in the neighborhood from some folks and maybe even on social media about that.

So, you know, I'll just throw that out there. But it's my opinion that they should probably be locked and that might lead into another conversation for another day about this. Bathroom building also and security and such, but we are dealing with some issues with vandalism and damage at the park. For example, we paid out of our own pocket to put a brand-new door on the bathroom after somebody busted it open. Two days later somebody put a hole in it. You know, we're trying to be positive and we're trying to move forward, but those are the kind of issues we're dealing with just so you all know and that we were trying to find a positive solution forward so that your investments are protected, our investments and time is protected long-term. So, I'm going to stop there. You know, I don't know if you guys have questions for me specifically, but I was going to let John maybe talk a little bit about signage or maybe draft rules for you all to consider if you would.

John Latimer, retired teacher with Muncie schools for 42 years. I Got into pickleball about a year ago. Anyway, those courts are beautiful. Delightful compared to playing on tennis courts over by Burris or wherever we can find. They're beautiful. I've only been into it about a year and if you try this game, you'll get a passion for it. But etiquette rules. One thing I've seen in Michigan, Florida and this area, there's a rotation. There's a mentality, which I can understand. Whoever comes, well, I have this court as long as I want it. But if there's people waiting in most other places, there's a rotation. You play a game to 11, win by two, which takes about maybe 15 minutes. You rotate out if there's people waiting. If nobody's waiting, who cares? You can play as long as you want. Just allow people to flow through, and then you sit down and wait. You're back in 15 minutes. People don't get that yet. I'm thinking if those were on the rules that would be helpful. We have all these people coming on Saturday and most of the people that I know they're friends. We put it out there. There's only two people I don't know but it should be a friendly fundraiser. That's why we're doing it, because we're a little short on meeting that goal. And I thought, all right, we can get some money. And I put it real cheap. Most tournaments aren't \$15 a person, but we'll have fun and make a little bit of money.

I did some research on park pickleball courts in neighborhoods, and I have a buddy that lives on Perdue 5 houses from the park. He's a retired gym teacher. He hears the cracking sound which when you're playing, it doesn't bother you. He hears it at his house and he's not complaining. But I just asked him if he hears it since his house is pretty close. I was thinking just to be a good neighbor because we've lived in this neighborhood a long time. I mean, who wants to wake up hearing that sound before 8:00 or before you go to work or in the evening, particularly if you have kids. I mean, the park's open, but just wanting to keep those courts nice as I found some people have used it as a dog park already. It's like, what are these dog prints doing in here? And I

think come on. And it's such a beautiful surface kids, I mean they want to play kickball in there and I'm thinking you got all this yard out here, play kickball out in the park. So, it's just a training, it's new. It's beautiful. So yeah, that was the mentality behind the hours of operation. If you're getting ready to slow down, if you have kids, you don't want to hear that cracking sound, particularly since you can hear it about 5 houses away, down the streets. So I don't care if you want to lock it or not. If those on the court can finish their games as close to 8 pm as possible that would be great as we are trying to be good neighbors. So I think signage is a good idea and if we can add the time limits for taking turns that would be great.

Shannon asked if maybe there could be another sign of pickleball procedures, showing the scoring. That way it's documented and people can point to it. She also stated since we have all four seasons here, is there a certain time, maybe in winter, that it needs to be locked up and the nets put up. John replied yes, when the weather starts turning so the nets don't get damaged by the snow. He stated when the nets come off the courts can be locked. He added, he took it upon himself to put a lock on the court to help protect them. James inquired who is in charge of the locks right now and he replied he took the lock off after a call from the Parks Department. Brad added, if we if we do adopt operational hours for this, I think that's a discussion we're going to need to have is do we rely and partner with the Neighborhood Association or do we add that? To an expectation from the parks staff, I assume the morning unlock would be easy for us to accommodate, but the evening I don't know if it fits into a schedule or feasible.

Carl interjected, we currently lock our baseball diamond at McCulloch Park because of the investment there as well. Before we invested in Gainbridge, it was Lafferty Field and that was locked as well. It wasn't a wide open community used baseball diamond, softball diamond. And so I think that having the neighbors involved, having the folks that are living there playing there, having some discussion and then the board, you guys just get together and say I think we take a vote and say 8:00 is probably a good time to lock it up and preserve it. We don't want bicycles and things like that on the courts. We are concerned as well at Gainbridge we've had people get in over the fence and you know if people want in, they are going to get in some kind of way. But as long as we can put signage up and the neighbors are in support of the hours and the park board is in okay with those hours. I think it's a win-win for us all. So I'm in support of what the board agrees on as well as the Neighborhood Association. James asked, if we can make this for all of our pickleball courts and Carl replied, yes because we're new at it all. And then if we get some blowback, we can always come back to the table and talk.

Brad added, like we said, this is kind of the Guinea pig of the first updated and renovated court that we've got. We'll get Dustin and then Nikki.

Dustin Clark. I don't know if JP or Carl remembers but there was originally talk of some additional baffling that got put on hold. The Thousand Trees program would still offer additional trees. So at one time Delaney and I had talked about putting up some like a tall boards on the like as a backdrop on the back arch where the Evergreen that's growing around kind of the half arch, that half arch was supposed to continue around. But the 1000 trees program would happily donate trees if that would help create an additional sound barrier. So, we would help support that to the parks, to George or to Halteman.

Brad thanked Dustin and let Nikki ask her question. Nikki asked if for summer, since the sun is out much later, would we have extended hours like maybe till 9:00 or so, or just keep it 8 to 8? Brad replied that's a discussion we need to have. So I guess make sure everybody's aware and clear the park hours are 5 am to 11 pm. Those are our official park hours per city ordinance. I know there's been some discussion and potential for different hours like dusk to dawn, but that's maybe a discussion for a different day. I personally think 8 to 8 is reasonable. If it was 8 to 9, I think that would be reasonable as well. I've got flexibility or options there. I know that 8 to 8 is what they presented.

Caleb Swartz interjected, when he was working in Newcastle on the Baker Skate Park edition, they have a four court pickleball court over there and I was over there usually around like dusk, dusk till dawn. And I often found that there was people at the pickleball courts before 8:00 AM. And I know that those pickleball courts are not necessarily in a neighborhood like the pickleball courts that we have here in Muncie, but in consideration of the time of day changing as the seasons progressed through the year, would it dusk till dawn hours be more suitable to a like year round hours that are kind of unanimously set by just the rising of the sun and setting of the sun?

Shannon added you're talking about summer, close to 10:00 PM. And that's not very kind to our neighbors. She then asked, is there anyone here that opposes the 8:00 to 8:00 or has some other ideas? John stated his only concern is the families that live there. Some of the future courts might be in bigger parks or away from neighborhoods, where it doesn't matter. But if we're talking about the small neighborhoods, we should be good neighbors. Who wants to hear that noise at night? During the day there is lots of activity in the park, especially with the splash pad and pickleball courts. The people are coming out to enjoy the park.

Brad asked John about the lighting, if he is seeing anybody playing after dusk? As we approach fall, is it lit enough to play? John stated there's just a street light or two and he doesn't think it would be very conducive for night play. Brad thanked John and asked the Board if they have any other discussion regarding the pickleball courts at Heekin.

Carl added, the two courts that we have under construction are going to be in small neighborhood as well. Riverview, there's houses right along the outer edge of the park.

And then Cowing Park off of Wheeling, there's neighbors there as well. So, I think that's what we're dealing with our pickleball courts. We don't have any plans as of right now to have them out in some of the larger parks yet. But I'm assuming if it takes off like it's going around the country that may be something we have to have to go back to and make some changes there as well.

Mark stated he agrees whether it's 8:00 to 8:00 or 8:00 to 9:00 or whatever, I'm comfortable with whatever everyone decides. I really am concerned about the vandalism though, because that also can make it kind of an intimidating situation where people don't want to go anymore. And so I kind of like if we set the time and then had a way to secure the courts when it's not in use. I don't know how we do that, but it's such a big investment and such a nice situation. I hate to see things torn up and there's no reason for anyone to be on those courts if it's not in the hours when they can play. Brad interjected, similar to what we're doing on the baseball. And exactly pool closes and locks when the operational hours are over. Mark added, it may be staff is stretched awfully thin. It may be that maybe a local association or something can help because it's not too tough if you're in the neighborhood to go put a padlock on and then unlock it. If you love the game and you love the sport, probably be glad to do that. But he does worry about that. The vandalism is concerning me at all the parks right now and we're trying to do good things and the vandalism undoes a lot of it.

Carl added, he agrees. We are you forced with that vandalism. We have it in and around our parks just like they are around the state. Other parks are having some of the same problems as we are here in Muncie. And so hopefully we can address that as well. But he does like that control time frame put in place and we can always come back and revisit. So I'm in support of that 8 to 8.

Brad thanked Carl and asked if there was any other discussion from the public or from the Board, and there was none. He added he thinks we can do this in two pieces. Let's look at operational hours and then we can adopt them. These additional rules for pickleball courts as a whole, I did receive. I talked to the Mayor a little bit today and he did write a letter here I can share with the Board but he was generally in support of operational hours and he referenced, again like Carl did, the baseball field and the pool as well and other facilities that have operational hours. So he did voice his support as well. With that I would entertain a motion for pickleball court operational hours from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

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

Brad asked George to add the operational hours to the signs. Brad asked if there was any discussion on these or thoughts? Shannon asked about number 2: the pickleball session should be no longer than one hour. Maybe it should state the pickleball session should

follow the 11 to 2 rules. Chandra added there should be signage for rules and a sign for how to play the game, with it being so new. So when we put the rotation on there, I think that would just be very just good information in general and then have the rules of the pickleball court on a whole other sign.

Carl asked the Board about pets on site and how to handle that if the rules are posted. As park staff most likely wouldn't be on site and we don't want an altercation to take place. Brad stated no pets is on the rules, so he would encourage anyone violating the rules or city code to call the non-emergency number for the police.

8. TUHEY BATH HOUSE – National Historic Preservation Registry – Shannon Powers

Shannon introduced John Hepnerto to discuss the steps to getting the Tuhey Bath House on the National Historic Preservation Registry. Brad stated, this is an initiative we engaged upon about three months ago. He and Shannon had some conversation about looking for sources to get some additional funding potentially and recognition there to the bath house. Through a discovery we found it's been headed down that path before but not fully executed. So trying to pick it up and turn that rock over again.

Mr. Hepner is the chair of the Muncie Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation Commission. He stated, at the present point in time, they do not have a historic preservation officer. However, we've done due diligence with reaching out to other people, including JP, to talk about what the next steps would be, and at this point there's probably 2 separate streams. One would be working for a local designation as a historic site and then the second would be putting on the national registry. So those are two separate activities. As far as the local designation goes that would require us having a vote, which we will probably be discussing this Thursday as it's on the agenda. So we're going to discuss it this Thursday and maybe work on resuscitating it on our side.

He stated, if it has favorable sponsorship from us, the next step would be that I would work with the city attorney on helping to put together the language and then we bring it before the council about the registry. And once that's done and if it's favorable in that direction, the local designation goes in place, what I understand is that process is a bit longer. That would be about an 18 month process at least. You have to fill out the application online. I would certainly be willing to help or to try to direct resources in that direction. However, I think that one's just a little bit more cumbersome, but I don't think it's undoable and that's kind of what I understand to be true and I'm going to double check. I've already reached out to Gretchen and she said that she had resources that I could get together with somebody from the city Attorney's office and then work on the language if we have a favorable recommendation. I am assuming because of the fact

that there is already an application that was in place, somewhere around 2012 that this process was in movement before. We may very well have already voted as a group that we were in favor of that particular direction, but I think it's just in good form and good faith that I get the current body of people that we have on board in our Commission to discuss it and to reaffirm that. To make sure that we're, you know, on the same page. So if that's the direction that you wanted to go, we would certainly be available to partner if that makes sense.

Brad asked if this opens us up for some additional funding sources and then protection of this site and some development there, options and usage. And asked if he had any details or if he or Shannon could elaborate on either of those. John stated he wanted to drop the clutch on that one as far as exactly which resources are available and how we would go about doing that. There was some discussion that he read and other places about getting some resources for you to assist in the process of writing for the National Registry. I think that's something that I think that you should probably pursue. If we can find resources and partner you up with some people to do that, I think that would be a very smart thing to do to make sure somebody was there to assist to you to get across the finish line. I wouldn't want to do this part of the way and just leave it dropped. As far as the resources and the funding, I think that's still to be determined. I certainly am interested in reaching out and finding out. If I find things in that variety, I'll certainly get those to you.

Shannon added there are some funding sources that Gretchen Cheesman forwarded to her. There was another one from the Daughters of the American Revolution that Brad King sent me something a month and a half ago. Work in progress and we appreciate John's assistance. She then inquired about the time of the meeting on Thursday and he stated it will be held at 5:30 pm at Cornerstone Center of the Arts in the Founders Room. Brad asked if there were any other questions about the bath house or any further discussion and there was none. Brad stated he would entertain a motion to move forward with the process to recognize the Tuhey Bath House as a local historic site and lead into a National Historic Preservation Site.

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

9. PRAIRIE CREEK REPORT – Dustin Clark

Dustin and Tawny gave the report. Dustin started with programming as they had one major event to go through. It is an event in its 10th year called Summer Bash Indiana. They are wanting to move their event from their previous locations to find a permanent

home for a concert series. It's a three day event July 11th through the 13th. They would need a prep time on the 10th the day before and then tear down the day after. They do expect attendance between 500 and 700 people and they do expect quite a few overnights. They do provide their own security. They have two to three off duty law enforcement officers and they are covering the charges for that. They are also covering the charges for additional toilet facilities/porta pots. They are not asking for any additional items. However, we would like to partner with them to help put this on and then we as Prairie Creek would like to either work with the Parks Department or cover the cost for the stage and the bleachers to help this make this a new home for them. We've had great success with the Ron Bonham days and the Troy Ingram puts on a Memorial Show concert. We would like to extend that. We believe that's real good for Prairie Creek. So we would like to help them out and partner with them.

Shannon asked where it would be held and Dustin replied, as big as this is, it will probably stretch over two to three locations. The concert we would put right back where the other concerts have been, which would be kind of in the bowl area just adjacent to the beach. That's where we did the 4th of July. That's where we do the Ron Bonham concert and the Dale Dryer Memorial Concert. For the overnight activities and their other activities those would be done on South Shore, which is kind of our primitive campground area.

Shannon asked when you say overnight do you mean their campers? Dustin replied they have requested all five cabins for the staff that will be working the event and they believe they will have multiple tent campers and people coming out to watch these multiple concerts. I believe it's multiple concerts, multiple days. Brad asked if he knew where they've hosted this event in the past or of any issues they have had in the past. Dustin replied they have had it in neighborhoods and most recently they've spent the last several years at the water bowl. They feel that they've outgrown the water bowl and they are looking for a more stable environment, more controlled. And so they have approached us and we said that we would entertain the offer.

James asked if they said two security guards and Dustin replied it would be two or three. James asked how many did we have at Ron Bonham this year and Dustin replied, Hope provided three or four and they also had actual law enforcement. By the time it got to the fireworks he believed they had a total of 11 officers. James added two to three for 700 people didn't seem like a lot and Dustin replied we had 11 for 14,000 and he would relay the message.

Mark added he thinks Jim introduced a topic that probably we're going to need to talk about, not tonight, it's beyond the scope of tonight, but the whole concept of security. I think we're going to need to when we have events of this kind, 500 to 700 or even more or less or whatever. In light of some of the recent events, we need to really revisit that

and comments that were made in the newspaper and thoughts about what is due diligence as far as security. If an outside sponsor is coming to the city to present something, I think it probably behooves them to come up with not just we're going to have two or three security, but here is our plan. Here is what we're going to do. Here is how we will interact with the Muncie Police Department. Here is how we're going to keep it secure because we had a tough situation recently and that could have happened anywhere. With 500 to 700 people, three security guards can't stop that. And I think, you know, in reading the newspaper and comments that were made, some of the comments are pretty well founded. We're all just trying to do our best job to make sure people are safe. But I don't think we can anymore approve something to say there's going to be two or three security guards, and that's good enough. I think we need to know what the plan is, access points, how we're going to keep an event from getting out of control, especially with the firearms that are available now, whether there's alcohol, whether there's those kinds of things. So we've got a lot of lead time here until next July. But this is a great way to introduce the topic. And I know the Mayor is trying to convene a task force to look at this whole thing.

Brad added some of what Mark is talking about is going to be out of our control as there are city regulations for events that happen to fall under that and we have to follow. Mark added until we know about the security he doesn't believe we can't give them a blessing yet until we know safety is a top priority. Dustin stated he would take it back to them and get the questions about security answered.

Shannon inquired if there will be alcohol and vendors. Dustin stated they hope to approach Victoria Brewer of Once Upon A Plate Camp and Eat Boutique. They hope to approach her, but they haven't done that yet because they didn't know whether this was going to be accepted. So I'm sure that is their intent, but they haven't anything yet because they haven't worked with her yet.

Shannon asked if this is typically a Delaware County event or attended by Delaware County people since it was previously held at the Water Bowl or do they come from all over. Dustin stated he wasn't sure as he had never attended. Brad added he was not familiar with the dynamic of the group either. Tawny stated they did say they wanted to keep it in Delaware as most of the people that attend are mostly from Delaware County and they had an option to move it to Kentucky but wanted to keep it here.

Shannon asked since it is spread over three days, is it like Woodstock and Dustin stated the way it was explained it is. There would be multiple concerts, one after another. Different acts, bands, genres. Shannon asked if they had spoken with the Water Bowl to get a history on them or the event. Dustin said they had not but they will.

Shannon inquired how Prairie Creek will make money from the event and Dustin stated from having a full campground, from tent camping and it gives exposure to the park

which helps us grow. When we grow we increase our finances which allows us to do more for the public.

Mark stated since we have a lot of lead time if we can get the questions regarding security and insurance that would allow us to be careful in how we approach it. Dustin stated he would do that and also invite them to the next meeting.

Dustin presented his report and stated they have been busy of the past month repairing docks, both wooden and the new Piers. We've been updating the new Piers. We've been putting on additional sacrificial boards that the boats would bang up against to protect the investment of the city Prairie Creek. We also have a test gate. So after the last Friends meeting, one of the Friends members approached us with a concept. We took that to heart. We went out and gathered some pieces and we installed that on Pier #9 to see if that style of gate would work, if it's going to be sufficient or not. We're still getting comments and questions and stuff. Is this going to be enough or not? So we are still working on that, but we have a test gate up at #9.

We've been very, very busy already. Iron Man is September 30th, so it is quickly approaching. We've been doing quite a few meetings and prep work to get ready for that. We've sustained some building damage. We had an individual drive their vehicle into a Ballard in the building. And so some repairs had to be made there. We are working on some other stuff. We are going through trying to fill three positions, the operations manager position, additional security and additional janitorial. So we are still looking. If anybody knows anyone interested, please contact prairiecreek@cityofmuncie.com or prairiecreek@muncie.in.gov.

Miss Tawney has been working tirelessly in the office on letters, which I think some of you may have seen. Those are about the announcement of the gates and those are starting to go out. The board had asked if we could kind of get those out and ready by the 15th, hopefully if everything goes right. We will try to get those open and available soon or out in the next two days. He stated they are working on getting the key fobs in place and those letters have been going out in mass.

We were asked if we could increase the lead time on winter storage notice. So we are going to try to get those letters out by September 1st. So that gives an additional 2 weeks notice to the campers. In the past, they had gone out starting mid-September. We are going to try to get them out right around September 1st, so two additional weeks.

Brad asked if they expect many sites not have winter storage available? He knows there's a few that we've got issues to address. Dustin stated there will always be a few but it isn't camp wide. There won't be a mass exodus and there's no major construction, renovation, bulldozing or removal of anything.

James asked when those will be announced and Dustin stated they will be on an individual basis based on what they can complete before the end of the year. We were able to remove some stuff on our own the other day. We're working with Josiah and Avery Electric. I'm trying to take care of some stuff on one of the buildings, if we can get that done with some help, if we can get a grapple truck. There's a lot of things I don't want to commit to. A number or a specific? It just depends on how much good weather days we have between now and the end of the year.

Dustin stated they are already in pier negotiations for phase two. That is going to be an ongoing project. My original hope was to have it done in three years, 3 phases. I would be perfectly honest that that's probably going to stretch into four. There's always additional costs. We've been asked to provide additional assistance to do additional maintenance, upkeep other things. So all of those things kind of whittle away at it every little bit. So it's probably going to stretch into four years. But we want to make a commitment to do. Literally those wooden docks their time has come and gone. I believe that it's a greater safety concern every year that we keep them. We do our best. I can't tell you how diligent Woody, Ricky, Rex, Mike, Titus, Jeffy and Junior work on them. They are out constantly all the time fixing boards, replacing boards, adding screws, adding side safety pieces, they are well beyond their projected life expectancy. We need to see those start to phase out as soon as we can and get a better system in.

James inquired if they have had any issues with the structure of the new docks? Dustin stated the only damage has been done to people that have not been properly securing their vessels or not using the right material to secure their vessels. Other than that, not really. The aluminum ramp at a couple of them need set screws and need some adjustment, but for the most part nobody has made any work orders or something on the structure of those and they do have like a 50 year lifespan. So we're on year one. I don't anticipate anything for a while. He then asked if they were planning to take them out this year as previously mentioned. Dustin stated they do hope to disconnect them from the dock to secure the investment but that literally just means pulling the poles in and letting them float out so they aren't accessible. That way somebody can't come out in the middle of winter and set up their fishing tent and a little hibachi grill and set it on that thing and melts right through it. Well then now we're out 40 grand like that's not good. But if I get them out a little ways from shore, they just ride with the ice, that's what they're meant to do. They are stable in like Lake Michigan, like these are up north like on the Great Lakes. So they should take our ice ok.

Plumbing and septic repairs continue throughout the park. That's been an ongoing issue. We do have a dated system and a unique system. Our system for the main building and part of our sewers are an experimental system that was granted a one-time exception. And so without digging up vast areas, we are continually trying to maintain that and keep that going. Otherwise we would have to break out another project. So

that's been an ongoing thing that we're working on. Work orders have become really great way of notifying us and getting us to work through issues together and then people know when stuff gets done. We were working now towards getting those work orders online and we have the first template ready to go. So that would be available from somebody's phone, tablet, e-mail, whatever they could get online. Hey, this is broke 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. And then we could review those first thing in the morning. Or if it's set up on an e-mail, you'd get it on your e-mail and e-mail notification work order came in. So we're excited about that.

Equipment repairs. We've been plagued with some equipment repairs, thousands of dollars. Our mowers are Ferris, they are extremely nice. Our staff spends 8 plus hours a day on a mower sometimes. We have literally thousands of acres. So our commercial grade mowers get an excessive amount of use amount of use even for commercial grade mowers. So we've had to do an annual refresh midyear because we put that many hours on them. But to keep some of these things up, spindles and decks and everything, it's getting a little pricey. We are working on keeping the mowers up and running, let's see, sort of making equipment to the regular vehicles.

And then the last big thing. At a previous meeting, two or three meetings ago, this Parks Board gave their consent to allow us to dedicate the new Education Center to the Cook family who has more than 80 years of service and that is rapidly approaching. That was approved by City Council and we are working to complete that free Education Center and that opening date will be September the 11th. So that's coming up. That will be just before the next parks board meeting. You have a dedication ceremony or anything associated with that, and that will be on the 11th.

Dustin concluded his report and asked if the Board had any questions and there were none.

Brad stated we approved our rates for this year, we made a commitment to revisiting these. In August. So we're here again based on the duration of our meeting and we've still got a few on the list. I think we probably just push that to next month. My personal opinion is that we have some form of increase, be it small to set the precedence that we are going to do rates every year, but that's something we can discuss and look at in the coming months here.

He then asked if Friends of Prairie Creek had anything prudent or to add for the board.

10. FRIENDS OF PRAIRIE CREEK RESPONSE – Jackie stated she didn't really have anything other than their next meeting is Friday, September 8th at 7:00, but she did want to add because you brought up the rates. Because earlier you mentioned that

the event fees out there only \$25. She feels like the campers and the dock holders, and I know this comes from everybody in the group, are the ones that are paying the majority of the rates out there. So she hopes that when you look at it this time, you're looking at the total use of the reservoir and not just putting the blunt of the increase on us.

11. RATES FOR PCR 2024 and OPERATING HOURS PROPOSAL FOR PICKLEBALL COURTS

PCR 2024 Rates – TABLED UNTIL 9/19/2024 MEETING

Pickleball Courts – discussed earlier

12. OLD BUSINESS –

- Update on Timeline for Westside Skate Park – Caleb Swartz.

So the Westside Skate Park project is a result of the advocacy and fundraising done by our Parks Department, Mayor Dan Ridenour, City Engineer Adam Leach, City Councilwoman Rose Selvey and the Muncie Skate Park Coalition, the proposed skate park projects. Design consultant is Hunger Skate Park LLCA Nationally recognized skate park specialized design build firm and the product Project manager is Kyle Kroger. A representative from this from the project's lead designer, Rundle Ernstberg Associates, also known as Rea and their Environmental. Engineer Sub consultant is Christopher B Burke Engineering, also known as CBBE. The project Manager Kyle Kroger was an exemplary resource for me to provide the board in our community with this detailed update today. In the agenda for this meeting you will find a January 12th, 2023 site design concept plan and two of the 95% construction documents. One is entitled L101 and shows the initial skate park site layout and keynote plan, and the second construction document is entitled 3101 A, which depicts the site's alternative keynote plans for the project and the base bid for the initial skate park footprint which is shown in L101 is 10,100 square feet as the minimum as the base bid, and that's approximately 0.23 acres and the total disturbed area is approximately 6100 square feet or 1.4 acres. The site's troubled area includes the area affected by grading, modifications and the construction of the onsite detention basin, and only three alternative additions have been proposed as a. As of today, and each will require additional fundraising and community input before they're before scheduling these alternative additions. Which is offered which is offered in document L101A. The three alternative skate park additions that are can be found in three 101 A are #1, the pump track, which is It'll be a single loop pump track and it's approximately .2060 square feet or .05 acres and it would be and it's located in in in relationship to the 1st edition of the skate park on the northwest side of it and the second alternative edition that has been included in this proposal is a mini ramp which is approximately 740 square feet. Or .02 acres and it is located on the southeast of the initial skate park which is shown in L101 and the alternate 3 addition is

would be an improved Westside park path pass connectivity and this it would be done via connecting a concrete pathway that would lead from the initial skate park to the adjacent basketball courts in parking lot of Westside Park. The proposed Skate Parks Project site is located within the floodway of the White River. Therefore, the proposed improvements cannot impede the flow of water.

Likewise, construction cannot utilize additional fill within the site's floodplain and requires permit approval from the Indiana DNR Division of Water, the environmental engineer sub-consultant. CBBE performed hydraulic modeling for the proposed site improvements and apply their modeling calculations along with the 50% construction documents to the Indiana DNR in March of 2023. As of July 26th, 2023, the permit status is still pending, but REA continues to check in with CBBE on the approval status of this permit on a biweekly basis. Once the once the permit for work is approved by the DNR and received, the bidding process for the construction contract will begin. Rea estimates the bidding process to be a three to six week. This gives the bidding contractors enough time to review the plans and ask questions, and allow the designers time to respond to any questions relating to the project's construction. All bids will be open and read aloud. Rundell Ernstburg Associates will review the submitted bid proposals and recommend and make a recommendation to Adam Leach, City Engineer, who will then present the bids and a recommendation to the City of Muncie's Board of Public Works rather than the Board of the Parks board. And that's because it because of where the site is located, it's classified as a public works project as we've heard in previous meetings and. After receiving a favorable offer, REA recommends executing a construction contract with the lowest bidder. This process typically takes a few days to a week. Kyle Kroger was still determining if the Board of Public Works would need to approve the construction contract. If that is the case in in order for this contract to be awarded. This could take up to a month so it can be approved by the Board of Public Works and in addition, during the February 2023 Parks and Rec board meeting, Adam Leach mentioned he reached out to Rachel Kahn, art professor at Ball State University. The plan was to coordinate a tagathon by organizing up to 200 Ball State students to paint the whole park before it opened to the public. I've discussed this topic with Hunger Skate Parks and Kyle Kroger from Rundle Ernsburg Associates, and this idea was tabled because it was on. It would cause unnecessary damage. To the skate park by making surfaces extra slippery, which would diminish the quality of the park and the overall rider experience. Thus, the proposed tag tagathon has been tabled at this time. The means of incorporating public art into the skate parks design currently remains unaddressed. Regardless, some concrete will be integrally colored providing some focal features. This is done it with all skate parks, so the copings and what not will be spray painted black on. This is pretty standard with whenever skate parks built and in addition to this the city was awarded a grant that allowed incorporating of a shade structure within the skate park and the state. The shade structure is anticipated to cost

\$30,000 and that includes the material and installation labor and I believe the grant that we received was \$40,000. And overall, the Westside Skate Park project involves a multiple stakeholders and consultants aiming to create a skate park while adhering to floodplain. Permit regulations in the public bid process community to continue fundraising for future additions to the skate park and the board to work towards developing a strategy to manage and maintain the skate park once construction is completed. As this as the project exists today, there aren't plans for. For skate park overhead lighting or cameras around the skate park I am personally an avid skater in this community and this is my most significant concern with the current state of the skate park. A skate park without lights or security cameras or a fenced in perimeter that would enable the Parks Department to regulate the operating hours. This poses a considerable risk to the Parks department's ability to manage and maintain our future skate park, and that's because we won't have a means to kind of a skate park the way they exist in its culture. Graffiti is kind of a part of skate culture in a way. So when you build a skate park, if there's no way to enforce the operating hours it you're going to, the park will likely get kind of vandalized very quickly, especially within a few years and so I kind of would like to recommend the stakeholders of our community consider addressing this inherent risk by incorporating possibly a legal graffiti wall at the skate park to kind of deter people from actually spray painting like directly on the park. And but also allowing there to be a public space where it's allowed for people to express themselves and do the graffiti because that is in in a sense a part of skate culture.

Chandra had a question about the graffiti wall. Is there like a sign we put on there that states no improper language? Caleb replied there could be a club association from whether it be Ball State or in partnership with the Muncie K12 schools as well, where every so often if something vulgar is put on the legal graffiti wall, you could send out an artist or students to go and paint over it rather quickly and that could be kind of a way to. Manage and maintain the wall. That way you don't end up with just a bunch of vulgar things put on the wall because kids will be kids. And put silly things on there

13. NEW BUSINESS –

- Funding Raising Proposal for Skate Park

Brad asked if there was anything else on the fundraising for the skate park? Anything additional there?

Caleb stated he also goes by Spooky and this summer I've had the opportunity to work for six weeks underneath Bart Smith of Hunger Skate Parks. I was assisting with completing the construction of the street section and pump track addition at Baker's Skate Park located in Newcastle, Indiana. From this experience, I made many

connections with the skate park advocates responsible for the very best skate park development I have ever witnessed, which is the Newcastle skate park. But that is only until we get a skate park here in Muncie, of course, but not only have I helped build a skate park in a neighboring community, but I also have been working underneath George Foley as an unpaid intern for the past eight weeks. However, I'm about to begin my junior year studying urban planning and landscape architecture at Ball State University. In order to graduate, I must complete an official 200 hour internship related to urban planning next summer. I would like to do this internship through the Parks and Rec Department and the Muncie Skate Park Coalition. I'm currently working on an application for a Ball Foundation Sparks grant through the Muncie Skate Park Coalition nonprofit.

If approved, it would allow me to be compensated for my time and establish fundraising for future additions to the Westside Park. If I received this grant, I want to do more than just. Be financially competent, Compensated for my time and energy. I want to organize the first fundraising event for the Muncie Skate Park Coalition. I am working on planning and organizing the first ever skate Park Community fundraising event, which I'm planning for it to be on June 21st, 2024 and that is National Ghost Skate Day. I plan to organize a day of skate related community activities such as an MF Doom tribute concert at Canon Commons, a how to write graffiti public workshop on temporary walls in one of the parks or potentially at MadJax and also escape a skateboard contest and many other skate related events. I will continue working towards these goals during my 2023 and 2024 academic school year, but I'm just hoping that you guys.

I wanted to kind of get your thoughts on this idea of an event of that caliber, because we've kind of never really had a skateboarding event hosted in Muncie that I really know of, at least in the past five or so years.

Brad stated George has spoken highly of the work that you've done this summer and I'm excited to hear that you're interested in helping us again next year. I'm sure you probably already know Canon Commons doesn't go before this board. They go through the downtown development, so that process would go through them. But certainly I think you've got our support and appreciate the work you've done. And for any events in the city, I always recommend anybody that's having an event reach out to the Muncie police first as the first source and then there's other private security firms that are available and out there. Then also the adjacent communities, Albany, Eaton, Yorktown, Ball State Mall, high security police force as well would be the other ones I'd reach out to. I'm not familiar with it with all the restrictions rules that Downtown Development has for Cannon Commons and what their requirements are.

Shannon suggested he contact Sergeant Amy Kessler the Community Engagement Officer and she could give further direction.

- Prairie Creek Rules 2024 – Brad stated we've just got a few that we need to update, review and keep up with those. I know we had some horse rules and some dock rules that we need to add as we've worked through this year.

TABLED UNTIL 9/19/2024 MEETING

No additional new business was presented.

14. 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.

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

Brad asked if there were any names on the public input list and there were none.

Dustin added we are getting close to budget, so he will send a draft budget to the Board to review and kind of start looking at. I know Craig Wright is hoping to get those done soon. The parks board serves as Prairie Creek's financial body so he just wanted to let you guys be aware that when you see that it's the in depth excel but that's it does show how we get through the next year. We don't plan on budgeting for any increases. So we will budget with what we have and then we'll let you guys go from there.

Carl added Nikki, George and Caleb have really communicated well about Muncie and our skate park opportunities. And I know we've all been asking for updates. This is the kind of investment I think when we got young people that's enthused about what they like. This is the first time I've really seen a presentation from an individual who is all about skate parks and when we interviewed him he came across that way. And so I hope that the city and City Council and Parks as well can get behind and definitely find ways to keep him and others coming to our city and bringing expertise to Westside Park as we move on with building that skate park and working with the skate Park Community.

Brad added he thinks we've got a great opportunity. I think he's maybe set the precedence here for how we can partner with Ball State and develop an internship program and get programs going that they're engaged with.

Meeting was adjourned by Brad Marshall, President.

*** Next Park Board meeting is currently scheduled for September 19, 2023 at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium.**

MUNCIE

MUNCIE PARKS AND RECREATION PICKLEBALL COURT RULES

- * Use Pickleball Court at your own risk
- * Pickleball sessions should be no longer than 1 hours
- * Please respect the time of others standing waiting to play
- * Prohibited Items: bikes, outside chairs, skates, skateboard/roller blades
- * Proper athletic footwear required
- * No food, glass or alcoholic beverages
- * No pets



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MUNCIE CARE

MUNCIE PARKS AND RECREATION PICKLEBALL COURT RULES

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Proper athletic footwear required

No food, glass or alcoholic beverages

No pets



Halteman Park Vandalism / Abuse / Other Incidents

- Windows pried open and broken to gain entry (2022)
- Interior door broken off hinges (2022)
- Exterior door broken into (2022)
- Graffiti on underside of playground equipment (5/23) – photo
- Parking block moved from parking space and blocking handicap spot (5/23) – photo
- Muddy paw prints and dog feces found on pickleball courts (6/23)
- Child seen riding bike on splashpad and ramming into water features (6/23) – video
- Kids seen climbing & jumping on roof of building (6/23) – reported to police
- Branches torn off newly planted tree outside building (6/23) – photo
- Large tree branches broken off 3-4 evergreen trees along Lancaster Drive (6/23) – photo
- Pickleball court surface damaged – someone used rock to scratch paint with child's name “[redacted] was here” (6/23) – photo
- Pickleball court net damaged by child seen hanging on it (6/23)
- Hole punched through new interior restroom door which HVNA installed (6/23) – photo
- Toilet plunger handle broken (6/23) – photo
- Random supplies left inside large room found strewn about outside building (6/23)
- New soap bars thrown in trash (7/23)
- Toilet clogged with toilet paper (7/23) – photo
- Soiled diapers thrown in corners and buckets left inside building (7/23) – photo
- Picnic tables damaged by someone attempting to burn them (7/23) – photo
- Child seen attempting to set playground mulch on fire (7/23)
- Picnic tables damaged by someone scratching paint (7/23) – photo
- Exterior water fountain damaged (7/23) – photo
- Kid riding motorized bike (minibike) on walking trail and yelling at people walking to “get off the path” or “out of [his] way” (7/23) – video
- Urine on changing room floors (8/23)

Comments from some of the many next-door neighbors and residents of HVNA:

We don't mind the noise from the pickleball as much as we do the people that "play loud" and generate a lot of noise. This is unacceptable considering many elderly and children live nearby and are trying to settle down after 8pm.

We have heard city park hours are "5 am to 11 pm". This may be fine for a park not situated directly next to homes, but for those that are, the noise is disturbing to the peace.

Parking is an issue. We have a perfectly good parking lot and it's not that far to walk to the courts from the parking lot. People using both (pickleball/basketball) courts are parking right on the street, parking on the park grass, some even parking on top of the walking path, and some in front of neighbor mailboxes and in front of neighbor homes/drives.

One neighbor had to install a "no parking" sign in front of his house. One neighbor isn't able to get his trailer backed into his driveway because of the number of cars parked along both sides of the street every night.

We need some basic "rules of use" established & posted for pickleball courts. They can be easily damaged by skates, chairs, bicycle tires, other things (basketballs, baseballs, volleyballs) for which the courts were not made.

We love the park and the amenities and appreciate all the City and Neighborhood Association are doing to make it a nice place, but we need better security and better parking regulations/enforcement.

One family came to play with their grandkids and were told they'd have to wait their turn although an empty court was available, simply because others were there before them and going to play. If there are going to be rules of play, we need to have them posted.

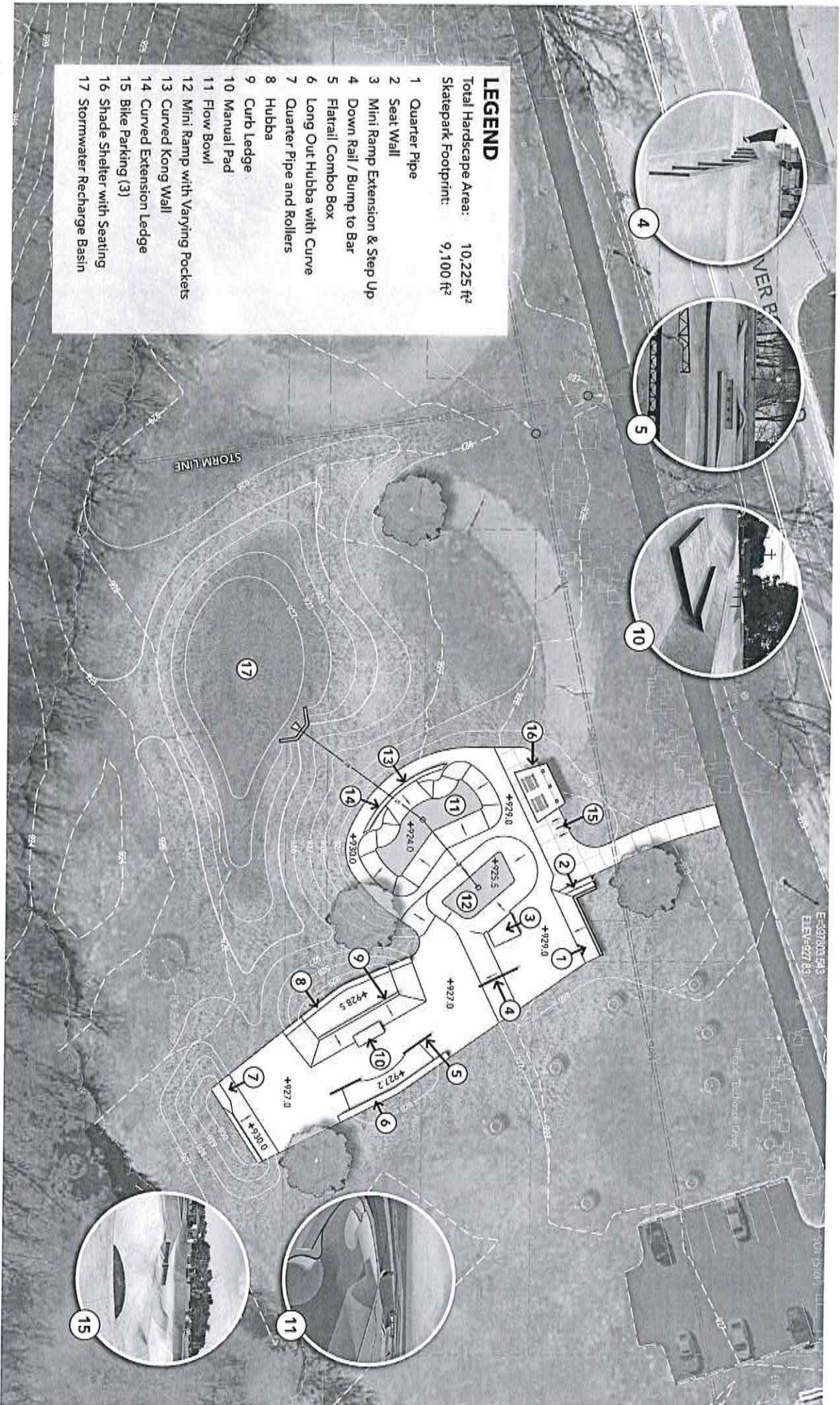
We would like to see more security measures in place. Hidden security cameras with recording abilities, motion activated security lighting, doors to restrooms locked outside of park hours, trigger alarms on doors/windows. We would recommend that signs be posted alerting patrons that the area is being monitored.

We hope that reasonable "hours of operation" or "hours of use" can be established by the city for the courts, just as there are with the splash pad. We recommend hours of use between 8am – 8pm. If/when this happens, we would like to see signs posted in number around the park.

We don't want more bright lights around the courts or building which stay on at night. This would create a nuisance to nearby homes, where the lights shine into bedrooms/living spaces. A few security lights which go off/on when motion/activity is detected would be fine.

If hours of operation for the courts cannot be established, we would like to recommend the official city park hours (5am? to 11pm) be reconsidered. We would recommend moving the closing hours back to "dark", as it was a number of years back.

Nothing good happens after dark (especially in parks) as most of the vandalism experienced has occurred during those times. We think a change in neighborhood park hours is a reasonable option considering the recent uptick in crime (both property and violent), especially post-COVID.



LEGEND

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Total Hardscape Area: | 10,225 ft ² |
| Skatepark Footprint: | 9,100 ft ² |

- 1 Quarter Pipe
- 2 Seat Wall
- 3 Mini Ramp Extension & Step Up
- 4 Down Rail / Bump to Bar
- 5 Flatrail Combo Box
- 6 Long Out Hubba with Curve
- 7 Quarter Pipe and Rollers
- 8 Hubba
- 9 Curb Ledge
- 10 Manual Pad
- 11 Flow Bowl
- 12 Mini Ramp with Varying Pockets
- 13 Curved Kong Wall
- 14 Curved Extension Ledge
- 15 Bike Parking (3)
- 16 Shade Shelter with Seating
- 17 Stormwater Recharge Basin



MUNCIE SKATEPARK
 SITE DESIGN CONCEPT | JANUARY 12, 2023



Park Board Meeting Public Input Sign In Sheet

Date: 8/15/20

Name (Please Print)

Address

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