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Superintendent: Carl Malone

Muncie Park & Recreation Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 20, 2024
City Hall Auditorium

- (1) Call to Order
- (2) Pledge of Allegiance
- (3) Roll Call
- (4) Approval of the minutes from (July 2024) Park Board Meeting
- (5) Superintendent Report – Carl Malone
- (6) Prairie Creek Report
- (7) Parks Programming & Approval of Events – George Foley
- (8) Friends of Prairie Creek
- (9) Old Business
 - IU Health Community Grant Update
 - Update on Tuhey classes this summer
 - PCR Rules
- (10) New Business
 - MOU Signature for 21st Century Community Learning Center
 - Applying for Grants (Dicks Sporting Goods and Pacer Foundation Grant)
 - PCR Rates
- (11) Action Items
- (12) Public Input – (3) minutes limit – Please state your name and address.

*** Next Park Board Meeting – Tuesday, September 17, 2024 (6:00 p.m.) - City Hall Auditorium**



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Muncie, IN. 47303
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Superintendent: Carl Malone

Superintendent Report

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Muncie Parks Department

Muncie Parks and Recreation staff has been busy wrapping up mowing and weed eating season, before heading into the fall season. We have been working to keep all working restrooms clean and secure from vandalism.

Tuhey Pool

Our summer swimming season is coming to an end. We were hit with some major vandalism to our pool office and concession stand. Our computer were damaged beyond repair and use. Muncie Parks and Recreation and the YMCA filed a police report on Monday, August 19th.

Riverview Park

We are still waiting on completion and installation work to be completed on Park restroom.

Haltzman Park

Park improvements at the community park have been completed (**Shade Structures**). Water fountain is in the process of being repaired.

Heekin Park

A meeting was held between Muncie Parks and MLK Dream Team Committee to discuss making improvements to the walking trail.

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 PARKS PROGRAM REPORT

August 20, 2024



FUTURE BEARCAT BACK TO SCHOOL CAMP AND TOURNAMENT

Muncie Parks and Recreation partnered with Coach Ullom (Muncie Central Bearcats), his coaches and team to have a Back To School Basketball Camp (K-3rd Grade) and a 3 vs 3 Tourney (4th-8th grade) on Saturday, August 3rd at Heekin Park. Both events were an open invitation for any Youth that wanted to attend and participate. Food was provided for those who participated. Thanks to Muncie Central Bearcat staff and players for coming out to the park and investing in our Youth and teaching the fundamentals of the game. We plan to partner next year and make the event bigger and give the Youth something positive before they go back to school.



MUSIC IN THE PARK

Our first year of having MUSIC IN THE PARK at Heekin Park on Saturday, July 20th inside the softball field was successful and we received praises from our audience at the event. Parents who had children had a great time at the concert, first by loving the bands and feeling safe with their kids running around inside the gate at the concert. Our first act was Marquiese McClendon, a up and coming rap artist. Mr. McClendon put on a great show and gave some young artist he works with at his studio an opportunity to perform. Our Main Act, B On It Band, put on a show for 2 hours and gave the audience a great performance.



BACKPACK GIVEAWAY

Muncie Parks and Recreation were able to have a great Back-Pack Giveaway, Tuesday, August 6th at McCulloch Park in Cabin 6 thanks to the partnership with Walmart South, NAACP Muncie Branch and Dee's Creation and Catering. Thanks to Walmart South we were able to give away 250 back packs filled with supplies and other school supplies donated by Dee's Creation and Catering. Also, NAACP Muncie Branch donated two bikes and (2) tablets. All groups are planning to do a Coat and glove giveaway in the fall at one of our Parks.

GRANTS

- Muncie Parks and Recreation submitted a grant through the **Pacers Foundation** to upgrade the basketball court, put in new LED lights, renovate the bathroom in the barn and put up permanent benches at Heekin Park.
- Dr. Shannon Powers, Asaki Goodall, Mr. Cornelius Dollison and I did a presentation, Thursday, August 15th at IU Health Corporate office in Indianapolis for the **IU Health Grant** which approved will provide year around intern program. We will get an answer about the grant in November 2024.
- Dr. Shannon Powers, Asaki Goodall and I submitted a **21st Century Scholar Grant** on Saturday, August 17th. This grant will provide year around programs in Arts, Dance, Music and STEM for middle school and high school students.

TUHEY AQUATIC CLASSES

I would like to report the numbers for Aquatic classes at Tuhey Pool

- Learn to Swim Class – 87 Youth and 8 Adults
- Aqua Zumba & Water Aerobic: 152 adults came to at least once in a class.

UPCOMING EVENT

- TRUNK OR TREAT (HEEKIN PARK – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19th)
- CONCERT AT WESTSIDE PARK



MUNCIE PARKS AND RECREATION, BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF MUNCIE, MUNCIE WALMART YOUTH AND DEE'S CREATION AND CATERING

7TH ANNUAL
TRUNK OR TREAT

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 19
2024
6PM-8PM**

- DECORATED VEHICLES
- GAMES
- SPOOKY COSTUMES
- LOTS OF CANDY
- FREE FOOD (UNTIL IT'S GONE)

@ HEEKIN PARK (BASKETBALL COURT)

FOR CANDY DONATIONS OR CAR SET-UP CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:
GEORGE FOLEY (PROGRAM DIRECTOR@MUNCIE PARKS
765) 499-9415 OR GFOLEY@MUNCIE.IN.GOV
DEDEE WALKER (765) 713-9655 OR DWALKER@BGMUNCIE.ORG

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT PARK OFFICE OR BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

COME DRESSED IN SPOOKY OR CREATIVE COSTUME
& ENJOY THE HALLOWEEN NIGHT
1ST & 2ND PRIZES FOR BEST DECORATED VEHICLES AND COSTUMES.

IF IT RAINS EVENT WILL BE MOVED TO THE MUNCIE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB
1710 S. MADISON STREET | MUNCIE, IN 47302



Muncie Park & Recreation Board Meeting

August 20, 2024 6 p.m.

City Hall Auditorium

- 1. CALL TO ORDER-** Brad Marshall called the 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, and Chandra Parks. James Lutton was absent.

Brad announced James informed him he would be absent tonight due to a work commitment.

4. APPROVAL OF JULY BOARD MINUTES

Chandra motioned for the approval of the July minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Shannon.

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

5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Carl Malone, Superintendent

Our staff has been busy wrapping up mowing and weed eating season before heading into the fall season where we'll continue to beautify parks, remove bad trees and things of that nature. We've been working on keeping all of the working restrooms clean and secure from vandalism. It's an ongoing thing. We just got to keep an eye on it. We try to alert the police as much as we can, but it's been going on all summer. I think it's just due to a lot of homeless people hanging out in our parks.

Tuhey Pool season is coming to an end. We were hit with some major vandalism to the pool office and concession stand. Our computers were damaged beyond repair. Staff filed a police report on Monday, August 19th.

Riverview - we're still waiting on completion and installation of work to be completed on park restrooms. I've talked with Adam in the city's office, and as right now, things are out for bid. I know the last time you guys are out, there's been some changes in who's

going to do the installing, but I don't have exactly who that would be or when that will be completed.

Halteman Park – Repairs have been completed. The shade structure looks good and the repairs to the water line for the fountain should be completed by Chris by the end of the week.

Heekin Park - We had a meeting there with the MLK Dream Team Committee to discuss those improvements that they brought before the board and ask you guys for your support and blessings.

Brad asked if there were any other questions for Carl and there were none.

6. APPROVAL OF JUNE BOARD MINUTES

Brad stated Nikki reminded him since there wasn't a quorum at last month's meeting, so they need to approve the June minutes as well.

Shannon motioned for the approval of the June minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Mark.

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

7. PRAIRIE CREEK REPORT – Dustin Clark, Supervisor & Tawny Hill, Operations Manager

Dustin stated the park is looking pretty good. We are fast approaching the holiday weekend, and I believe that we are fully booked. I think the cabins are already locked down and the RV sites are pretty well taken. So we may or may not have some tent sites, but we are getting ready for the upcoming holiday weekend. So we're cleaning the park.

We are going to be removing two play structures. In the past we had an area that was referred to as scary playground. It is the same park equipment like in town that Carl deemed was unfit by modern standards. It's the old metal tube. The top steps are rusty. The bottom has exposed concrete. So those two last pieces are existing in South Shore. So we are going to be pulling out the old metal slide and the old metal teeter -totter. We are going to be moving those two pieces of play equipment prior to the holiday weekend. We'll probably have some cones, stakes and caution tape up for that construction project.

We have met with Deaton's docks for next year. We are going to continue with the process of installing the new plastic docks. So our main focus next year is going to be the

section under the bridge, the old mooring section. We are slowly modernizing that whole area. We would like to make it all the way around, bring that community dock into compliance and get new equipment throughout that whole area. So that's going to be our next focus coming up as we start installing docks as soon as we get ice off the lake. I know it sounds odd to be talking about that now, but we're in the process of getting ready so that we have the stuff in the winter, so that we can start in the spring.

We also had a jurisdiction meeting in which we invited the Indiana DNR who sent two representatives, County Sheriff Tony Skinner and his Deputy Sheriff Jeff Stanley came out and participated with our own Chief Sloan from Muncie MPD, in an effort to try and work out some precautionary issues and try to address some stuff so that the park doesn't backslide. We are finding that as we continue to grow Prairie Creek, we are getting a lot more families and a lot more use, but we are also attracting some undesirable effects as well. And we want to stave that off as much as possible. We want to know who we call about trespassing, who we call for issues, who takes care of what stuff. We are working through them, it does look like we will be bringing probably an MOU to define who does what. At some point in the future, MOU Memorandum of Understanding, between basically the three major departments and the Army Corps of Engineers. If anybody remembers the levee is a no-go zone. That's not even where Prairie Creek goes. That's Army Corps of Engineers, that's Federal trespassing. We don't want to mess with that area. We have also had a recent meeting with American Water about defining, going over and making some corrections to our current lease. The original lease was signed on December 16, 1961. That was supposed to go through 2021, but it got renewed early, in 2013/2014. There are some things that they would like spelled out a little bit better and how we manage the west side and what is and isn't in the preserve. We are working through legal as well. I think they're at least aware of some of the issues. So they are also giving us guidance on how they want us to handle certain areas on the recreation side as well and making sure that stuff stays open to the public.

Brad asked if there were any questions for Dustin or Tawny and there were none.

Tawny presented an event for the Bob Thomas Company Picnic. They've been having it for several years and didn't realize they need to get it approved. They've never had any issues in the years they have been having it. They expect about 150 to 175 people. They will set up their own tents. They will bring out a bounce house, a couple tents, and they will be catering. It'll be from 9 – 5 pm on 10/6/24. Shannon asked where is it going to be, and Tawny replied it will be over at the beach, in the parking lot and the grass area down there. Shannon asked if they will have vendors, and Tawny replied they have only listed they will be having catering. Shannon asked if they will have alcohol, and Tawny replied she didn't see it listed. It's more of like a kid -friendly family event. Brad asked if they asking for porta -pots or restroom facilities, and Tawny replied the restrooms will be open and they've never requested port-a-pots before.

Shannon inquired if they will be paying the event fee, and Tawny replied they will be paying the event fee of \$25.00.

Chandra motioned for the approval of the event. Motion was seconded by Shannon.

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

Shannon asked with the jurisdiction meeting if it was the Sheriff from Muncie or Delaware County, and Dustin replied it was Sheriff Tony Skinner of Delaware County. Shannon then asked if it was Selma and Muncie Police invited to the meeting as well, and Dustin replied no. Shannon asked if he though they should be included and Dustin replied they can be. In the first meeting or two, we need to get our ducks in a row before we invite Selma PD, the State Police and possibly the County Commissioners. We talked about inviting everyone but getting 15 – 20 people in a room is far more difficult than getting the three main people in a room. So if we can get those three to agree, that's 90% of our issue. Currently, Selma doesn't respond to Prairie Creek but in kindness once we get everything sorted out we will invite them in. As of right now, we need to get the people that do respond on the same page.

Shannon asked if there was some planning around replacing those two playgrounds, and Dustin replied there's lots of planning but it will be budget dependent. Shannon asked if there are other playgrounds and Dustin replied there's one by the beach. Tawny added there's the North Shore campground and the large one over at the beach. She didn't know when it was built, but it's pretty nice. Shannon asked was the playground at South Shore widely used and Tawny replied it was rarely used. Dustin interjected he didn't want to conflate a playground with two pieces of equipment. So it is a slide and a teeter totter. The teeter totter has not had a seat in ages, and the top step of the slide has begun to rust away.

Brad asked about the floating docks for next season, and if they are looking at two or three fingers. Dustin stated we have had our first meeting with them. We had a phone conversation with them, and then they came out and did a survey without several areas. It'll now be up to their design cost and budget and we are still waiting on their first return communication to say they can do this many 20s, or twice as many tens. That this will be this much, and this will be this much, so when we get their numbers back I will be able to give you a number. Our goal is to try to do that entire area. He can't tell whether it'll be three large ones or it'll be six small ones, because we don't have their designs back on how much room in between each one or what's the distance. We're working with a smaller area over there so we want to make sure that we plan that correctly. Shannon asked when the season end for boating, and Tawny replied it is October 31st. yeah I say they can have a boat on a dock It would be very dependent. Dustin stated if we get this section done, we will be about six short of our original goal.

But if they come in with 2023 - 2024 prices, we might be able to cut that down to a couple. Part of the reason that we are definitely going to go into expansion is we added not only the minimum of four ADA compliant spaces, but we added four more in the South and then four more in the middle. So that costs additional funds. So I would say that we're probably looking at 2026 now.

Shannon asked how things went with the gate on the dock, and what feedback have they received, and Dustin stated he has heard good feedback. Tawny added she's heard good feedback including people feel more secure. Some have stated they are shorter than they thought and they like the design of the one's at the sailboat club. But overall people are happy with them. She stated she and Dustin have been discussing getting those fairly soon. We had a little bit of rough summer, getting to some of the things. But that is on our list to get done very soon. We did budget for it this year. So we're talking about how we're going to secure those. I think we spoke about that last month but we want like what we want to use like a number code for everybody there or personal one so we're just working out a few more details but we do want to get those in.

Brad asked if there were any questions for Dustin and Tawny as he knows we've got a couple other Prairie Creek items further down the agenda and we'll get to those here shortly.

Tawny stated she wanted to mention since we're getting close to the end of the season, we have started getting off our winter storage notices. We've got those all printed off. We have started sending those out today, so the first 109 campsites will be getting their winter storage notices either at the end of this week or next week. We want to give people plenty of notice. She knows in the past they've sent them out in September. But it's really been her goal to make sure everybody has plenty of time to plan for that. Brad interjected he knows in the past we've had some maintenance and some needs to not offer winter storage to sites are there any plans for that this year? Does it look like all sites are going to be available? Dustin replied they don't know of anything as of yet. We did have an emergency tree service. We had to get Muncie Sanitary to allow us to use part of their contract, so special thanks to Donnie Wright and Adam Leach, to get a tree down. We thought we were going to have to move campers but with their equipment, they were able to do it basically without doing that. We don't have anything else that is on our list that may be something where we've got to ask people to move out. We should be able to work around most things, but we could have a waterline blow, or we could have a major transformer go out, and then I don't have a choice. There is no plan to ask anybody as we've already started sending them out.

Brad asked if there were any other questions from the Board and there were none.

7. PARKS PROGRAMMING – George Foley, Programs Director

George asked if our Board President could lead us in a moment of silence. Last week we caught a serious blow to our Intern Program. We had a young man that was murdered, shot down and killed. It affects our community. It affected our program. I met with and talked to his family on Sunday. He was just a young man trying to get his life together. We gave him a chance in the program, and he was an excellent worker. He did what we asked of him for the six weeks and was playing football. It just really hurt and that's why we do programming to help these youth and I want to thank the board and Shannon we're trying to you know push everything you around but if we can just give him his family a moment of silence. Brad asked for the name of the young man and George replied his name is Tay Phillips. Brad asked everyone present to please take a moment of silence. After the moment of silence George thanked the Board. Brad stated this shows how passionate George is about this program and these kids. These kids are really important and the things that we're offering them to give them a chance to really have a positive impact in the community. Unfortunately he suffered with that but I think we're making a change in these kid's lives. I know we've seen positive feedback from kids that have come in here and talked about it and we just got to keep continuing to outreach to these kids and show them there's options out there. Brad stated he appreciated all the work George is doing. You're doing great, thank you. George thanked Brad and apologized stating he didn't expect to be emotional as it's been a whole week but it still hurts a little bit. George added it has been a summer for programming.

Future Bearcat Back to School Camp & Tournament- Was held a couple weeks ago at Heekin Park. Coach Justin Ullom of Muncie Central called about partnering and it was a nice tournament for middle school youth. It was a way for Coach Ullom and his Bearcat players to give back to the community. It was an open invitation shared on social media. Quite a few kids showed up. I talked to Coach Ullom, his staff, and Carl about doing it a little bit like a back-to-school type basketball camp in and three-on-three tournament next year. So we'll be talking about that more next year.

Music in the Parks was held at Heekin Park on July 20th. We held the concert inside the softball field and it turned out really nice. We had two bands perform. One of them was Marquise McClendon, an up-and-coming rapper, singer and country artist. One of the good things about him is he had some young kids that he worked with in the studio. They had the chance to come up there and perform with him. And so the audience was into the kids and everything.

So kind of gave them a platform to do their music and express themselves that way. We had the Be On It band as our main performer. They performed for two hours, and put on a really great show. I got some input from the crowd and they liked the idea of having

the concert inside the softball field because the kids could just kind of run around in the field since it is gated. We hope to partner again with Muncie Black Expo on their event. Carl led a basketball tournament for Black Expo on Saturday and Sunday. So that was a great event with no violence and everybody just had a good time that weekend. So I want to thank the Muncie Police Department for coming out and providing security. They passed out water bottles. They were engaging with the kids and with the people in the park. So I wanted to thank them for coming out there and just having a good time with the crowd.

Backpack Giveaway was held the day before school started on August the 6th at McCulloch Park in the Cabin. We collaborated with Walmart South, NAACP, and Dee's Creation and Catering. Walmart provided over 250 backpacks filled with supplies. Dee's Creation along with Flowers Wholesale provided some loose supplies for the kids. The backpacks went really, really, quick and it was a good engagement with the community. NAACP donated a couple of bikes and a couple of tablets that we were able to do as a giveaway. We were out there from 10 am to noon and it was a good time out there getting the kids ready for school. Chandra asked how George snagged Walmart and George replied she actually reached out to him earlier in the year and wanted to do a partnership as she had heard about some things we'd already done . She also wants to partner to do a hat and coat giveaway during the winter. We're in negotiations to do that in one of our cabins. That's a great partnership right there.

George added he is still planning a concert at Westside Park and we would like to do that probably towards the end of September inside of the softball field. He is trying to clamp down a couple of bands to play at that. We will also have our 7th Annual Trunk or Treat which is a very successful event at Heekin Park on Saturday, October 19th.

It's been a pretty great summer of programming. I hope I've made Superintendent Malone pretty happy. I'm pretty tired but it's been a great summer working with everybody. A lot of people have walked up to us and thanked us for doing programming in the park and we want to continue that. He thinks we've helped a lot of kids and helped parents by keeping their kids busy. Chandra complimented George by saying he's doing a fabulous job.

Brad asked if there were any other questions for George and there were none. Brad asked if there were any events for approval and George replied he had one.

EVENT APPROVALS:

Dale Dyer Memorial Concert – This is an event for Prairie Creek that was turned in by Troy Ingram. It is the 5th Annual Concert to be held on September 1, 2024 at the Beach

Area. They are expecting 150-200 people and security will be provided by off duty police. George stated he left the paper in the office but can send everything over in the morning. Brad added this event has happened before without incident and he would entertain a motion to approve as presented.

Shannon motioned for the approval of the event. Motion was seconded by Chandra.

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

8. FRIENDS OF PRAIRIE CREEK –

Brad stated we have a few people in the crowd and asked if anybody had anything to say as he knew they had a few events coming up this fall.

Val Abram thanked the Board for having her and stated she had a few questions. She stated they are pontoon owners, and do down by the dam side where it's not quite so busy. We spent an entire afternoon for about three hours with three or four big trash bags picking up trash down there, if you're heading towards the dam on the right-hand side. She inquired who is responsible for that end of the reservoir as far as cleanup. It needs somebody needs to kind of pick it up a little bit down there. Brad replied, ideally it'd be the people who are throwing the trash out, but we all know how that goes. He'd have to probably talk to Dustin some more to know where's ours versus, and at the damn goes to the Army Core of Engineers. We don't actually have any access to the dam itself and the levee there. And then how we gain access is the other part of it, right? He knows that area is pretty wooded up there. Val replied the area she is discussing has rocks and sand, and they can pull their pontoon right up there. They were able to spend a good bit of the afternoon out there cleaning up and were a bit surprised that there was a lot down there and it didn't seem like anyone had cleaned that area for so long. We're all in this together.

Val also asked what's going on with the speed boats as they are getting a bit out of control. It seems that no matter where they go they are just flying by at a high rate of speed. She inquired if it is being policed or what we're doing, especially with the out of towners. Brad replied anything on the water goes to DNR and is out of our jurisdiction. Muncie PD and county police don't have jurisdiction on the water. It sounds like Dustin in the process of working some things there but their resources are limited. Brad agreed that he has also seen some issues out there, and he knows what she's talking about. He doesn't have an answer but it's something we can work through and it sounds like Dustin is working on something. Val replied it just seems that every time they go out, it's just more and more. She knows we all want to play out there but they're speeding like they are out in the ocean. It's pretty crazy and miserable out there some days, and she'd

appreciate if that can be addressed one day. Brad added, on that note, I guess a reminder for everybody that goes out there is the lake as a whole is 20 mile an hour speed limit. That's an actual Indiana state code. The city nor this board established that. That comes from the state codes. Shannon asked is there signage out there. Brad replied he believes there's a sign at the boat house and there was one at the ramp, but he doesn't know if it's still there.

Christy Foster stated she has had the privilege of working with George when she worked for MITS, and you guys are so lucky to have him. He's amazing and the kids love him. The parents love him, and I can't say enough good things about him, what he does and the programming that he does. We're all very blessed to have you. Christy asked if we have gotten an update on getting the gates repaired. She has a camper and was just wondering if we have an update on that. Tawny replied they haven't been able to get a response from the company that installed them, though they have reached out several times but haven't gotten a response. We reached out before the last one was hit because we had one that quit working. Our maintenance guys have tried to fix it with no luck. We've been discussing other ways to get those gates back down but sometimes when you're working with other people things prevent us from moving quickly. We've been working really hard trying to get those closed again. Dustin added they did not order residential gates. They order commercial gates and only a couple companies produce them. We went with at the time who we thought was the best. That individual is not local, and we have been having trouble getting them to respond has been an issue and they have made several attempts before this last one got hit and now we're going to have to get replacement parts and last time replacement parts took months to get so we are looking to see if there are other options that we can do. If we can order directly from the company, the company doesn't want to sell to us directly. They wouldn't sell to Junior directly because we are not an authorized dealer. So we are trying every which way, but they had made previous calls before this one got hit. So we want them to be down and effective because we've already spent the money on them. So we want them to be as effective as possible, and we understand that they are not currently that way.

About the speed limit. Currently the original lease says horsepower cannot exceed 15 and speed of 10. The last time anything was printed, they were using 20 mile an hour. That's not exactly as those aren't equivalent. So DNR does the best they can. We are in 100 % agreement. We would like to see the wake boats be addressed and the miles per hour. My main concern is people's safety and then the water. This is our backup water source for the region, so I need to control erosion, which I know is sometimes countermanding recreation, but erosion is the next control. Wake boats and speed boats cause a lot of erosion issues. In several places we've lost two feet a year. Junior has pushed back some people's docks almost 15 feet. The more we create those wakes and those high speeds, the more everything on the edge, which was like this, slowly moves in and then just gets shallower and shallower. Then that gets into warm water, then you get

into algae growth, then you get into algae blooms, and then nobody can use the water. And then it's three or four hundred thousand dollars to treat a lake that size. So we are absolutely behind anything that we can do to mitigate speed and wake boats. Tawny added DNR has had quite a presence out there this year. They've been doing a very good job. You don't see them much and I didn't see them until I started getting out more but they are always there. I know because I'll get calls from people complaining that they got a ticket or something, so I know they're out there working. Dustin added, Jordan Brand has been promoted and he is no longer our DNR for Prairie Creek, so a salute to him. We are currently using the Randolph County DNR agent officer Jason so we do have a presence. He has been making it out there on a routine basis but it is literally coming upon hunting season so we are we are not at the top of their list at the moment but they are trying to be out there as much as possible. We are also working with the City of Muncie as Chief Sloan is trying to put it in his budget to purchase a boat. If an ordinance is passed that has a mandated speed or horsepower or wake issue and he gets a boat and the city says it's okay, that could be a future thing where he could assign an officer out there, especially on busy weekends.

Dustin stated Val Abrams is super awesome. Clean up is our responsibility. If you guys point out where the trash is, we will go pick it up. We try to get people to carry in, carry out. We just did work with a church organization. Tawny stated she believes it was University Church from Yorktown came down Saturday and she had a chance to meet them. Windsurf is definitely an area that gets a lot of trash, that and the ATV trails. We have a lot of people who will just come dump trash, tires, and all kinds of items. So I sent them over to Windsurf, because I know that's an area of concern. I only have three full-time employees right now. So we are trying. The maintenance guys, when they're not busy, they'll go out there and clean up. My new cleaning lady, I got the beginning of the year, Lawanna Ross is always out picking up trash. I don't know if you guys have had a chance to be out there since she started, but it's been amazing. When I go over by the bridges she's picking up trash. We do know that is an area of concern. We have people who come out and help. There's just a few of us and we do try but it is a large area. So I do know it does get pretty bad as it's kind of hidden back there. It's beautiful and the church came in and cleaned that area and made it very beautiful.

Dustin added since 2020 Prairie Creek has not had the funds to purchase a maintenance boat and have been relying on the Sail Club and using personal boats. The Wright family and others have been donating their personal crafts to do docks installs & removals, trash removal and everything else. Currently we don't have a vessel to do any water shoreline stuff. So if we don't see it from the road, the guys a lot of times, if they're in the gator or something, they might pick up the stuff that's on the trail, but then maybe three feet away or at the shoreline, maybe they don't see 13 bags of trash and an old tire. If you do let us know, we will work towards that. Tawny added they can send her an email or give her a phone call, and we'll get somebody out there. It's such a large area that we

really do rely on feedback from you guys to know what's going on. He added if anybody wants to donate a barge, we'd love a barge.

Christy asked once the gates are repaired and down will EMS be able to get in. Dustin replied Tawny has worked to get them a push button code so they can always get in. Tawny added they also have been given a key fob. She has been discussing many of these concerns with the Fire Chief in Selma. She used to work in EMS and usually those types of gates are set up for the siren to work on them but they learned that didn't work on their gates. They have all been given a universal four digit code and they have the key fobs as well. Unfortunately, we didn't know the sirens wouldn't work so we worked to resolve that issue as we don't want an ambulance or fire truck stuck out there trying to get in. Dustin stated the worst case scenario the systems are default set to open from the inside. Not that it's convenient but if you have someone on the inside they can pull up to the gate and it will open. He stated if it's EMS, either he, Tawny or Junior stands up by the road to flag them and show them where to go as we are talking about over 2,200 acres. Tawny added they noticed the signage was missing in certain areas and have replaced those. We've also discussed possibly getting some signs that point to areas since it's so large out there.

Christy shared some upcoming events with the Board. The Friends of Prairie Creek have a Corn Hole Tournament on Saturday, September 7th from 5 – 7 pm. This is for leaseholders, friends and family only at the community building in the campground. They are also doing a Let's Get Spooky Halloween Bash on Saturday, October 19th, from 6 p m to 9 pm. They're going to have a Chili cook -off, pumpkin decorating contest, a costume contest and some trick or treating. She also advised they cancelled Float the Bay.

Christy added she doesn't think there is a trash problem at Windsurf Beach. She feels like they do a really good job. I go down there a lot with my granddaughter, and I've not seen a ton of trash out there. I think we do a good job of cleaning that up. Dustin added sometimes Junior goes out there now that we've got a commercial rake.

Brad asked if there were any other Friends of Prairie Creek comments, and there were none.

9. OLD BUSINESS

Brad stated we've got old business these are items that we've previously discussed in the meetings and still on the agenda first we've got the IU Health Community Grant update and asked Shannon for an update and she asked George if he wanted to do it or you wanted her to. George stated they are at the final stage of that grant process and were asked to do a presentation. He, Dr. Powers, Ashaki Goodall and Cornelius Dollison went

to downtown Indianapolis to IU Health corporate office and were able to do a 30-minute presentation. We had 10 minutes to do a PowerPoint in 20 minutes where they asked us questions. That went pretty good. I think we answered all the questions that they wanted. We will get an answer back the first of November on that. Again, that grant will allow the internship program to go year round and then there'll be some kind of like a cap program for the for the middle school youth. We should hear some back first of November and that funding is for three years.

Brad announced next we've got update on the Tuhey classes that we had this summer. Shannon stated we had two streams of recreation. We had the Learn to Swim classes that were free classes covered by a Ball Brothers Rapid Grant. She thanked the Ball Brothers Foundation and announced we had 87 youth that were from infants all the way to teenagers. We also had an adult class with the teenagers and adults together. That was successful. Everyone had 10 hours of instruction this summer. We did Learn to Swim tests, pre and post-tests. And our pass rate at the end 84%. We taught basic safety skills so that they could not drown. We didn't do stroke development testing but did basic life survival skills. Even with our infants we taught them the skill of turning over early. We had a really nice pass rate for that assessment. We also had two group exercise classes that were mainly attended by adults. The way we measured that was just by attendance, and we had 152 adults. We measured them by unique identifiers, not how many came. We had 352 that came throughout the 10 weeks but 152 people came at least once so that means that we had a nice retention rate of people that kept coming back.

Brad said next on the old business we've got the Prairie Rules Update. We discussed this early in the spring, primarily around the dock transfers. To remind everybody, we adopted the policy regarding the dock transfers, but we haven't solidified that into the rules and some of the wording associated with that. In addition in reviewing the rules there were some most additional items that were identified by the team at Prairie Creek and also by the legal department those just got sent out to the board today. I think we've all got copy of that. If there's anything that we need to discuss today we can but I would like to give you guys a chance to review this, go back to the Prairie Creek team ask questions there, and then we can probably get that on the agenda for next month for potential approval in September or October to have that established before the new year. Shannon asked if the friends of Prairie Creek had seen these rules and Brad replied he think they maybe are getting it shortly. We've got some internal review we need to do before we publish it but the goal would be to have a consumable copy by the next meeting to be able to present questions.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Brad stated we've got a few items here. The first is an MOU for the signature for 21st Century Community Leadership Center. We talked about that a little bit last month and some of those items. Their grant proposals a little different they want some of those contracts on the front end, so I worked through those this last week or two, I got this signed pending a board approval. He doesn't know that we've got any action on those at this time outside of that the grants out and working through that process unless Shannon had any other update which she did not.

We also have we're applying for some grants with the Pacer's Foundation and Dick's Sporting Goods that you George or Shannon can update us on. George stated we were sent the Pacer Foundation Grant, which is for any improvement to a basketball court, whether it's at a recreation center or park. Dr. Powers & myself, met with the Mayor and presented it to him. He said it was okay for us to apply for but of course, we want to go to the board. He thinks it's up to \$100,000 where you can do improvement to your basketball court. We picked Heekin Park to get some improvements because that's one of the basketball courts that gets most used. And that would redo the bigger basketball court and also put better LED lighting up there, and possibly do some permanent benches at the basketball court. We have two more items that we have to finish and we should be able to submit that proposal by Friday for that grant. We wanted to make the Parks Board aware of it and just get your approval on moving forward with that. Shannon stated Dick's Sporting Goods has a one-to-one matching grant for \$50-100,000. We can expand that project and buy the stadium seating and possibly fix that public bathroom as well. That could make it a \$200,000 renovation.

Brad stated we've got flatland here today. He didn't have anything detailed on the agenda but assumed it's new, old and a little bit of both. David Heilman of Flatland Resources stated he was coming back to the Board to talk about the Memorandum of Understanding between the Parks Board, the MLK Dream Team, and the City of Muncie with regards to improvements that are proposed in Heekin Park. He believes he spoke back in May or June about this project. He's been working with legal counsel, and they kind of put some finishing touches on the MOU. He stated he didn't know if they got it to the Board today, and Brad replied he received it this morning and he thinks the rest of the board did as well. David asked if he could approach the Board as he had some graphics/illustrations about the proposed improvements in the park. As Carl mentioned earlier these improvements were agreed upon when we talked with Carl and with the MLK Dream Team, which will include a welcome sign along Memorial Avenue, notifying those passing by of the Walk of Fame. And we are proposing a gathering space concrete pad where one of the current pathway entrances off of that park drive there. The work, assuming the Memorandum of Understanding is put in place would kind of occur over the next couple of months to get that sign manufactured & installed, and get the

concrete pad gathering space built as well. So that gathering space would be about 600 to 700 square feet. It'll be dependent on the final cost as we're working with a Ziegler grant to pay for this. Brad interjected he thinks they have worked with Ziegler, Carl, George and the neighborhood associations over there to get some feedback, and The MLK Dream Team, so he thinks there's been some pretty good discussions there. David replied he guesses at this point what they need is a signature on the MOU which he believes Brad has to sign. Brad replied he just received it this morning and hasn't read it in detail and inquired if Flatland had any concerns after legal review. David said no, it's all pretty standard for them.

Brad asked if there were any other questions regarding the Walk of Fame gathering space and the work there, and there were none.

Shannon asked if David could give an update on Riverview. David replied what he knows is what Carl knows. Regarding the bathrooms, specifically, it was originally in the contract as a prefab structure. The decision was made by the City to have a kind of a stick built structure made so like cinder blocks with the roof like you would see out at some the other parks in town. The design was put together and then the contractor was asked to provide a price. Pridemark provided a price and it was decided that that price was too high so the City determined that they would seek alternative costs for that bathroom structure and we have not heard any updates as to whether or not those have been received yet. Shannon asked if there was anything else at the park and David stated they are pretty much done besides a couple clean up items the contractor is responsible for and some picnic benches. Brad asked if there were any other questions, and there were none. Brad stated he would email the MOU to David and legal the next day.

Brad said the last new business item we talked about it a little bit last month regarding Prairie Creek rates. Last year we made the adjustment to the dock and launch fees. T previous year we'd made adjustments to the campsites and dock rentals and I just think we need to at least look at those again and make a decision if we're going to make any adjustments for the 2025 season. He started putting together some numbers similar to what we've done in the past and should be able to send those out to the Board to get some feedback from them and Prairie Creek staff and see if there are any adjustments needed for the next season.

11. ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

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

Brad asked for those signed onto the list for Public Input. There were none.

Carl stated he wanted to say to Nikki, the Board, Prairie Creek, Dustin, Tawny, and all the community that uses city parks, we've come a long way in a short period of time. Our goal is to continue to serve and work on the five-year plan. One of the things he wanted to say about George and the programming, he often tells George what he hears from people in the community and his eyes light up a little bit because he's working really hard. He's a one man team a lot of times. During the summertime he gets little help. He and Nikki work on some stuff but people still want more. He wanted to say we've had conversations about programming for next year and in 2025 we will have some other programming added to what we're already doing. He wanted to go on the record to say the investment that the city made to create the program department which was needed in the five-year plan and then we selected George to be that go to guy and he can't be happier with the progress and the work that he's done from his desk. He said George and Shannon have worked on a lot of the improvements that we've made. He added sometimes people think we don't give enough kudos to people that work within the city government, and so he just wanted to go on record to say that I'm definitely appreciative to have them on the team. And the comments that he gets from people in the community about what we're doing in terms our city parks, if you look at Prairie Creek and Muncie Parks, he thinks we've come a long way. Do we get it right all the time, no, but we're a work in progress and there's plenty more for us to do.

Brad added they can't say enough about George. His title is Programming Director but he does more than that. That may be his title but all of us, both at Prairie Creek and the parks in town wear many hats and are very dedicated to the programming and it shows through the progress we've made. On that same note he knows Shannon has gone above and beyond as a Board member as well with her work on the grants, and George has been very integral in that as well. He's wearing a lot of hats and doing a lot of good for programming. Shannon added there a lot of people that work for the City of Muncie government wear multiple hats and need more praise as they do so much and go beyond their job description and hours. She saw that out at Prairie Creek with Tawny and with Nikki. It's incredible the amount of work they do successfully on their own to keep the city government running. It's unbelievable, so kudos to them. Brad asked if there was any other public input and Carl reminded the public the Parks Office is located at 811 East Centennial. Sometimes for whatever reasons it doesn't resonate with the community but that is our address. They may see the address on the building at Kirby and Madison and they also think we're still over Heekin Park as well, and it's been about two years that we've been out of there. Carl added also for Nikki, you know, she works in her office, working with the Controller's Office and is kind of a one man crew in the office, taking all the phone calls and all the other work. And so shout out to her as well, because it's a one man team in the office. And then she helps with all the other calls that come in with our team. Even the guys depend on her a lot to move and handle logistics.

She does an excellent job, a great job of moving the team, and I appreciate her. Brad added he knows they keep Nikki busy in there.

Brad stated it is a smaller crowd in here tonight but reaching out to everyone at home you're always welcome to come join us for positive and negative feedback. We like to hear it and that's how we make the changes. He knows there's a lot a lot of ways to communicate with us but this meeting is certainly the best forum to get it on record, get it in the public and allow us to see it. Probably the second best choice is direct email to either the in town staff or the Prairie Creek staff. They both do great, passing those communications to the Board, and then allowing us to reach out. There's other social media outlets that are great to share things, but aren't always monitored well and not the best forum for us to be able to get feedback and understand what the needs are. He always recommends the meetings or going down to the office and visiting Nikki. I think she certainly would take a cup of coffee and a donut, and if you want to bring one into her, I'm sure she would appreciate it.

Brad asked if there were any additional items or public input and there were none.

Meeting was adjourned by Brad Marshall, President.

*** Next Park Board meeting is currently scheduled for September 17, 2024, at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium.**

Park Board Meeting Public Input Sign In Sheet

Date: 8/20/24

Name (Please Print)

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