



811 E. Centennial Avenue
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Superintendent: Carl Malone

Muncie Park & Recreation Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 21, 2025
City Hall Auditorium

- (1) Call to Order
- (2) Pledge of Allegiance
- (3) Roll Call
- (4) Approval of the minutes from (December 2024) Park Board Meeting
- (5) Superintendent Report – Carl Malone
- (6) Parks Programming & Approval of Events
- (7) Prairie Creek Report
- (8) Friends of Prairie Creek
- (9) Old Business
 - Parks Assistant Superintendent (board expectations/introduction)
 - Playground Update for Westside and Aultshire
 - Till Pond update
 - Floating Dock Update
- (10) New Business
 - YMCA Pool Contract
 - Truck Purchase
- (11) Action Items
- (12) Public Input – (3) minutes limit – Please state your name and address.

*** Next Park Board Meeting – Tuesday, February 18, 2025 (6:00 p.m.) - City Hall Auditorium**



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Superintendent Report

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

Muncie Parks and Recreation Department has been busy working inside on Park projects. They've been painting benches, tables and making minor repairs on snow blowers and doing visual truck inspections.

We recently have five positions within our Parks Department that we were interviewing last month. We have filled three of the five to date. Kellie McClellan was selected as our Working Foreman, supervising City Parks and Prairie Creek. Fred Stewart for Urban Forester and Nathan Duszynski for Full-time Utility Worker at Prairie Creek.

We continue with interviews this week for two other positions, Assistant Urban Forester and Program Director.

Youth Employment & Resource Fair

Rescheduled date – February 8th and 9th at Minnetrista Cultural Center

Grants

Pacer Foundation Grant – Pending
Musco Lighting Grant – Pending

Riverview Park

We do not have a completion timeline on the following park projects

- Restroom Installation
- Park Bench Installation

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

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT & RESOURCE FAIR

Muncie Parks and Recreation will host the 1st Youth Employment and Resource Fair on Saturday, February 8, 2025 (10am-2pm) and Sunday, February 9, 2025 (1pm-5pm) at Minnetrista Museum and Gardens.

On Saturday, February 8th we will take applications for our Summer Intern Program and do interviews with the help of volunteers from various organizations and individuals from the community. There is no registration required to apply for Summer Internship Program

We will have (3) workshops on Saturday:

Resume Building Workshop 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Dress for Success 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Financial Literacy 12:00 pm-2:00 pm (Facilitated by Northwest Bank)

On Sunday, February 9th, we will have organizations from around the City doing on the spot interviews for High School Youth looking for permanent part time work. We will also have organizations setting up a table to share with Parents and Students resources they have for Youth in our city and we will have one more workshop.

Entrepreneurship Workshop – 3:00pm-4:30pm

Registration is required for the workshops

Special thanks to IU Health/Ball Memorial Hospital and Northwest Bank for being sponsors for this event.

NATIONAL KIDS TO THE PARK DAY

National Kids to the Park Day will be held on May 17, 2025 at Canan Commons. We are still in the planning stage but it will be a day of fun with games, bouncy houses and music. We are inviting the community and the Board to come out and enjoy the festivities.

Any vendors interested in participating in the event can email us at muncieparks@muncie.in.gov for more information.

NFL FLAG FOOTBALL

We've started registration for flag football and we have already received a great response. We are going to have 120 players in the program. This is our third year partnering with the NFL and 3rd and 11 to offer flag football at Ball Corp. We are accepting applications for the program for youth in K – 6th grades.

Muncie Park & Recreation Board Meeting

January 21, 2025 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, Chandra Parks and James Lutton.
- 4. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER BOARD MINUTES**

James motioned for the approval of the November minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Chandra.

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

5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Carl Malone, Superintendent

As for 2025, we're just getting started to continue on what we were doing last year in December. Pretty much working inside and outside depending on the weather. We were able to winterize sidewalks with salt there a couple of days. But mainly we've been inside working on picnic tables, benches, minor tune -ups on some of our snowblowers, and then they cleaned up and in and around the shop, then taking calls.

We're still having issues with our bathrooms from time to time. I took a call last Saturday. There was a young man locked inside the bathroom. The Police Department called me as they tried to open the door, and couldn't get the door open. I made a couple calls to some of our team members and then we eventually were able to get in. The guy had locked himself inside and couldn't get himself out. But once we got to him, he was on a motorized handicapped equipment inside our bathroom at Heekin Park. So, we've been keeping it locked and unlocking it when we have rentals. It's heated, so we think people go in to get out of the weather. Then we try to lock it back up when we don't have rentals. So, it's something we've been fighting for a year or so. But we do have a concern about safety. We don't want to go in there and someone might have a knife or some type

of weapon because their concern is staying in the heat and they're thinking our concern is putting them out, kicking them out into the cold. So that could be a safety concern.

We've had quite a bit of openings within our park system. In the five years I've been here I don't think I've ever had five openings all at one time. And so, I've spent a lot of time with Patty lately. She and I have spent many, many days going through applications and then creating a scoring card that I like. I think it is very, very fair and then we were able to go back through to sit down and make a selection. So, we've filled three of the five positions so far. One being with Kellie McClendon, who's been a 20-year plus employee for the city. She was selected as our Working Foreman supervising, Prairie Creek and of course our city parks. The five-year plan has always called for a Working Foreman to be in place. That was changed. I think we talked about that last month, but it was changed when this administration came in. So, I've never had an opportunity to have a Working Foreman within our park system. So, we're looking forward. In speaking to Kellie, she talked about the years that she's been here. They've always had supervisors in place. And so, we're hoping that we can be able to support Prairie Creek as well, keep things running smoothly and then also help police and supervise our day-to-day operations. It's an opportunity to give it a shot and see just where we go with it. The Mayor's in support of it. I think Brad has had conversation too. So, I wanted to make sure the Board knew that it's always been in the plans, we just never had one so this is the first time. I want to say thank you to Kellie. Carl invited Kellie to introduce herself.

Kellie introduced herself to the Board adding she's spoken to them a few times when she was under the Urban Forestry position. I just want to say thank you and I'm excited about this new job. I'm excited to work with you. If there's anything you need me to do, or just feel free to call me anytime, text me anytime, I'll give you my phone number before we leave today. Shannon asked if Kellie is three days on? Kellie replied maybe Carl said this already, but three days on two days off at PCR. I think it's like a work in progress. They want to see how it goes. It'll depend on the season. Today's really my first day because yesterday was a holiday. I went out and introduced myself to everyone and I know Junior is on vacation right now, but I asked them a lot of questions. They asked me a lot of questions, and I think it's already a good start. Brad stated we've got that on our agenda under old business, so we'll talk about that a little more and what our expectations are and how we want to help support Carl and Kellie as we move forward.

Carl added he thinks we've got a new opportunity to forge forward. It will be a challenge but I think once you put all the team members in place, continue to have good dialogue and communication, I think that will put us in the right situation. We've got actually two positions within our department we still have to continue to interview for, which would be our Assistant Urban Forester. And then, of course, our Program Director. The Mayor and I talked about the first quarter, our office, me and Nikki. Nikki's doing an excellent job already, helping out with making phone calls to the partners about things that we've

got coming up upon us. For example, the Youth Employment Fair. That was rescheduled, it was scheduled for January. I think Shannon has some involvement with that as well. Nikki and I are just trying to reach out to the individuals. I've gotten a few phone calls about the new date which is coming up February 8th and 9th at Minnetrista. I've gotten calls inquiring if the program is still going to go forward, timelines, and when that's going to as people don't want their kids to miss the opportunity to get signed up. We want to keep reaching out to those individuals and making sure everybody's got a fair opportunity to seek employment with their young kids. So, looking forward to seeing how that's going to work.

Our grants, as I know it to be, Pacers Foundation Grant is still pending, and the Musco Lighting Grant is still pending. I know Shannon has had a lot of conversation and been hands on with those grants. He asked Shannon if she wanted to share a little bit of information. Shannon stated we have made it basically to the second and final round for both of those grants. The Pacers Grant would be to refurbish the Heekin Park Basketball Court. And then it says Musco Lighting. They're part of it, but it's actually a National Parks and Recreation Association Grant, and there's only five of them given across the nation. So hopefully, we have a shot at that. We made it to the second round and had a conversation with two people on their committee who wanted to know very specific questions about whether we had dump trucks and they were asking if it was feasible which I thought was a very good sign. So, we'll hear from the National Parks and Recreation Association on January 31st and hopefully the Pacers will let us know soon.

Carl added I've seen some of the parks that they've done over in Indy through the Pacer Foundation and they're very colorful so if they give us the same blueprint if we get lucky enough to receive then those color coordinates will hopefully match some of the playground equipment that I've seen, that we do have the colors that I've seen so far are pretty nice and it's a nice facelift, it's nice. The court and artwork look really nice, the ones that I've seen in Indy.

All right Riverview, I'm going to have some conversation Monday with the Mayor to kind of talk a little bit about the completion of that project, the timeline on that. There's been some changes between the contractors, and so I need to have a conversation so I can be up to speed. The Whitely Neighborhood Association is asking questions in reference to 2025. What they've told their people at their neighborhood meetings is that the project would be completed in 2025, so they didn't give a specific month, they just said this year. In talking with their staff and their committee, they're asking me personally for a little more definite month so that they can let their people know. Their neighborhood association is pretty active. They meet regularly, and they're pretty good at providing information. So, I think it's more of an informational thing for them to be able to have different committees. And certain committees are a little more aggressive than others and the ones that's on the playground committee, that's on the

neighborhood committee far as that particular park, kind of want to know timelines, so I'm going to find out Monday when I meet with the mayor in reference to where we are at what contractor is going to be completing that project as it did change somewhere in the middle of the operation but I don't know any more than that. Just the contractor was changed from what we started with. Shannon asked if it was Pridemark and Carl replied Pridemark was involved. Flatland was involved and what I've heard is a city so I don't know if that's coming just from the Mayor's desk and or if we need to have a conversation so we know what contractor to reach out to or if there's another contractor that they're looking to complete the project. Shannon asked, is there a project manager, and Carl replied I want to say Adam Leach is on Thomas Park playground completion, so I would assume Adam. I'm not 100% for sure but as I know he's had conversation in our department head meetings and one timeline that he did give was for Thomas Park. So, we've got the restroom there and then we also have a waterline that was capped off, we think when the splash pad was put in there at Thomas and so we have to run a new line from the main line up to the building. Some kind of way we lost water to the main building there at Thomas Park and so that's going to be on us. That's going to be our expense because we don't know which contractor did what, we really don't know so we just got to go forward. I've already talked to Jay-bird, they're the individuals who do our plumbing to find out what's the closest main line up by the building to run a new line to provide water to Thomas Park's building.

As far as the park benches, the conversation I had was with Flatland and Dave and they were talking about putting benches in. But hopefully on Monday I will have a definite timeline on Riverview. I know you all came out and had a visual of that particular park and so I'm sure folks out there are ready to have that ready to go come early spring.

Brad asked if there were any questions for Carl on the Superintendent Report and there were none. Brad asked if Carl would be taking care of the Programming Report or if Nikki would be. Carl replied he was going to mention that when he got up there. Nikki has kind of really been multi-tasking, as he sees it. She's really stepped in and kept conversations going. So, at this time, I'd like to have Nikki come up and kind of talk a little bit about the programming because she's really been involved with that quite a bit.

6. PARKS PROGRAMMING – Nikki Eckerson, Office Manager

Nikki addressed the Board and started with the Youth Employment and Resource Fair which was rescheduled to February 8th and 9th. I have reached out to the partners that were already in place to ensure that those dates still work for them. So, we did a little shuffling around of the schedule because Ms. Ward was not going to be available on the Sunday. We were able to get a conference room for Saturday at Minnetrista, so the Dress for Success workshop is going to be on Saturday now. We're going to have the Resume

Building Workshop which is going to be run by Ball State from 10 until 12, Dress for Success is going to be in the conference room from 11 to 1, and then Financial Literacy is going to be run by Northwest Bank from 12 to 2, and on Sunday we're going to have the entrepreneurship workshops. And on both days, we are going to have organizations on site that are going to be giving out information and resources to the youth and their parents about what programming they are going to have throughout the year. We are also going to have employers on site to take in applications for the youth who want year-round employment.

National Kids to the Park Day is going to be on May 17th at Canan Commons. We are still in the planning stages of it, but we know we're going to have games, bouncy houses, and music. Any vendors who are interested in participating in that can go ahead and email us at muncieparks@muncie.in.gov.

NFL Flag Football registration has started and we've been receiving a really good response. Carl met with Brandon on Friday about the program. We are going to take 120 players. This is our third year partnering with the NFL and 3rd and 11 to offer flag football at Ball Corp. for youth from K through sixth grade.

What's not on here, is we are scheduling a meeting to meet with Ben over at Northside to nail down them being our hub for the summer program again. We just have to coordinate schedules and then have that meeting, get the contract signed and get the insurance over to them and then move forward with that.

Nikki asked if the Board had any questions and there were none. Brad stated he wanted to thank Nikki for stepping up there and really helping out when we had a gap there in the office. You've done a great job. Carl added he wanted to piggyback off what Nikki said. The Mayor is excited about us pushing forward with the summer program. I will tell you that he's definitely invested in the Summer Program to continue moving forward. The Muncie Schools send support, as I know it. Like Nikki state we're having a meeting with Ben to talk about detailed stuff that we need to make sure we got in place but having those partners in our community willing to provide their doors and let us in is just a bonus. Plus, one of the goals for 2025 is to try to continue to expand it with other partners. Ball Hospital has been very supportive as well. I want to continue to meet and build a relationship with them as well and so it's a task like I say it's going to be a new task. Not so much for me because I was involved a little bit before this administration with doing some programming under the old administration and so just getting back into that fold a little bit. I stated to the Mayor that I thought I could help out in the first quarter and by then we should have someone narrowed down and picked to move us on forward throughout the year So, that's what I say to the program. I think it's been very valuable. The kids that we've taken in the program has been great. The Saturday before last, I spoke at Minnetrista with Eco Rehab, met with them and their

board, some of the incoming members and some of the outgoing members. We had some slide show pictures of the work that the kids did the previous summers, which highlighted the shelters, the benches, picnic tables, some of the work that the kids did. So, their group, EcoRehab is excited to be back on board and support them as well. And they wanted to make sure I let the Board know that they were still in, you know, in process of being supportive of our summer program, so it was good to hear.

Brad thanked Carl and asked if there were any events or things for approval and he did not. Carl asked if Nikki had any in the office and she stated she will have four next month. Brad said he knows the one we had kind of rollover from last month was still working through the Gainbridge/Lafferty Field scheduling. Carl stated he and Richard talked about it. We also talked with the young man from the sports complex about scheduling another meeting here real soon in the coming days to discuss what you had discussed earlier about making sure both groups can sit at the table and work out the times that that field would be utilized and so that needs to happen sooner than soon. So, we did make some phone calls to reschedule that so in fact I have that application on my desk table in the office to follow up tomorrow and try to make that happen.

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

7. PRAIRIE CREEK REPORT –Tawny Hill, Operations Manager

Tawny stated we have a lot of changes going on. So, I'm sure you'll get to meet Kelly here in a few. I met her today. Just mostly a lot of changes going on. Just working with Carl, getting ready to start the season. Don't know what that'll look like yet, but we're pretty optimistic.

We've really just been talking about the piers and what sections we're going to change. We've been talking about doing that bay area still, but we're still unsure. I think that's going to get done, seems like it might but we're just not sure yet. It should be any time that we'll know.

Other than that, we're just talking about what the hiring process will look like this year and Shannon asked who do they need to hire. Tawny replied they'll just do the regular hiring and we'll hire some extra maintenance workers or we might work with the parks. So, it's all really different, but we'll have all the beach attendants come. The boat launch will open, so we'll have a few people down there. Shannon asked about security, and Tawny said there will be security and they will have more meetings. We've just had a few, but we're just trying to see what it will look like with some of the changes. Shannon suggested they get started on that sooner rather than later.

Tawny stated other than that, we've just been getting all the leases out. Everybody should have their campground leases. Most of the boat docks as well, the only ones that

have not been sent out are the two sections that we're unsure about. We have one to one hundred that's inside the campground. We don't know if that one's going to change. So, they're kind of sitting to the side to see if they are or not. And then we have the Bay Area, which is I think, 200's – 300's. So, everybody else should have theirs. Shannon asked when are leases due again, and Tawny replied March 31st. We will take them up until the 4th, but that will be a late fee. Once that happens, we'll start talking about doing the lottery and switch day.

Brad asked if there were any questions for Tawny? Shannon asked about the wooden piers, and if those were removed and Tawny replied that most of them were. Shannon asked, how about all of the other ones. Tawny Yes, we did finally get the floating ones moved over. They are tied down in a spot before we were able to get them because we were lacking some equipment and we're working on some new training and we start realizing that we needed to work on some safety issues before we were able to get them all moved. That caused them to not be tied down for like a week or two and one had started to float away. It caused one of those to break off. I'm not sure yet if that's something that's going to be an easy repair or not. So that's something Carl and Kellie and I will work together to figure it out with the maintenance guys. But that was an issue that we did run into.

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

Carl added just for the record we did talk with Tawny's office a little bit. We had a meeting out there, myself, HR, and some of the team members to talk a little bit about what it looks like right now out there at Prairie Creek, and then what we can do to work together and focus on those piers. I do know that the financing is in process. I met with Jeff Huff in reference to some of the work that he, Dustin and the Controller had worked on the proposal. I think he's going to be prepared to come in for the Board and present that proposal and then have a final sign off maybe with the city and the bank to bring the financing in to purchase the floating piers that Tawny talked about. We still need to put that in place to replace all those other wooden ones that we do have. I'm just getting on board and up to speed a little bit with that but for what I do know we won't have as much time of those wooden docks when we get the floater docks in place. And then the other thing we talked about was the support between the two parks. We're just trying to make this thing merge and work where we can utilize the talent from both parks and equipment from both departments and then hopefully have a nice team of teamwork and things being done. So that's the conversation I've had with the Mayor, Tawny's office and the maintenance department in terms of Junior and those guys. Making sure they understand the chain of command. We went over the structure going forward of how the chain of command is going to work. It's not so much that we're looking back, we're going forward and we just had a meeting to talk about the structure and what the structure is going to look like.

Brad thanked Carl for his input. Shannon inquired if the financing is in process to purchase, how many floating docks are we talking about. Carl replied he hasn't seen all of the paperwork but he wants to say between 150 to 200. He asked Tawny if that number sounds right, and she stated she thinks so. Carl he's going to have a conversation on Monday with the Mayor and then to be exact on that number. I've only had one meeting with Jeff from the bank and he's prepared some docs and stuff that he wants to come in before the board, keep you guys informed and have you able to ask any questions to the finance committee that's going to be help purchasing those floating docks. James asked if they can get that information before the meeting and Carl replied yes, they can. He added in fact when I met with him last week he mentioned he may have it already prepared to go ahead and send over to you guys and that will give a chance to look at it and then when he does come, you'll be prepared to ask questions.

James asked Tawny if any of the new piers were damaged by the rocks or anything like that because he received calls that they were beating up against the rocks and Tawny replied she didn't see any damage. She stated she hadn't heard of any damage due to the rocks. They're pretty strong. It was just the wind hitting it, like pushing against something so hard the piece that sticks out is what snapped off. She doesn't know if it just came out since they're kind of like Legos. She doesn't know if it's going to be an easy fix or if it actually snapped. James asked if they are starting a process to explain to the people working, how to take these piers out, and how to put them down? Tawny replied, they've had training in the past, by the people who sell them. And then also, we've worked with the Sailboat Club because they already had them to teach us things. That's where we've come up with some of the new training. We're wanting to work on the safety issues with it. We've been using waders. They don't go in that far and that's worked before. But when you're on a boat out in the deep, if you have those waders on, you're not getting out. It doesn't matter how strong of a swimmer you are. So, we've already talked to Kellie about that. Carl's been talking to the Mayor about that. Everybody's on board. We're going to start getting a new training system in for safety and what we need to use going forward. We're going to have those by March.

James asked if they have started discussing the security for next year? Tawny replied they had prior to Kellie coming. She has some things that she was working out with Dustin and the Mayor a little bit but she hasn't gotten to meet with Carl and Kellie about that yet. We've talked about maybe bringing somebody in, I don't know what that's going to look like or if that's going to be what Carl and Kellie want but we've talked to different organizations that have police officers. We've talked about different stages and what that would look like, the cost and if we could afford it. We've discussed possibly having either a security company or even officers out there.

Brad asked if there were any other questions for Tawny?

Carl stated, in regards to safety and the security. We know we had some issues out there last year in one of the department head meetings we had. I know the Muncie police had some conversation with the Mayor and probably Dustin as well and so on. Monday when I meet with the Mayor that's one of the other conversations we're going to have about the safety and the security and having them having arresting power. I thought they were trying to bring the police in because they don't really get in there that much to work but seen if there's some kind of proposal for the city police to come out and work out a little bit. I don't know the details but I know there was a little bit of conversation about working with the Chief of Police to have some of the city officers come out. I don't know where they are on that or if they're still having ongoing conversations but I will definitely have that on one of my agenda list items to talk about the safety out there at Prairie Creek. James stated he knows we had a lot of theft out there towards the end of the season, and I mean, when there's no security or security is sleeping, we need security that's going to do their job. Tawny interjected she hadn't met with Carl about this yet, because this was before Carl had kind of taken over. But I did meet with some police officers and there are some options that we could go over, different prices to talk about having our own officer out there. So that could be like four or five days a week thing where the officer is just for Prairie Creek and then they're on call for like Monday and Tuesday. So that's something that I have all the paperwork on, I can sit with Carl and Kellie and tell them what I was told and maybe even make a new meeting with the officer. Shannon added, it's also really important the times. So, like four o'clock or maybe three o'clock, but go till two or three a.m. Tawny replied, that's kind of what we were looking at and I'm trying to remember everything that we spoke about. But it would be somebody, it'd be like two people kind of running it but there is like they can also change rules. The officer is saying we can have something set up where the rules will allow them to be able to do city and county arresting, it will give them power rights to do both which has been an issue. This will also allow us some of the rules we have on the water I believe, like if your boat is on somebody else's spot, before we've been till we could move it but we've also had other people telling us we can't. We're always talking to different people and they're telling us different things. The lawyers are telling us one thing, the city chief is telling us one thing, it's been really confusing so this will allow us to actually be able to implement our rules and have somebody that will do it. So, I just need to sit down with Carl and show him all that.

James asked, so we actually have to pay the city police to come out in this agreement to a city park. Carl replied, whenever we have events we've always had to have funding in place for security. It used to be the first thing on the application was do you have security for those events and then it's usually some kind of fee associated with the officers if they're working overtime. That's throughout the city. That's throughout even in all of our parks. There's usually a cost associated with our city police. I think they work overtime, things of that nature. They sign up for it and then we just have to have a

budget set aside to for the costs. And I know Prairie Creek has come up a couple of times in some of the meetings. And so, I think when you just get to an actual meeting room and talk about costs as it relates. James asked does the city pay for patrol in city parks too? Carl replied, not during the regular time of their working hours, but when it's a special event, we have to pay for security. And it's not cheap. Some officers charge what they make if they go other places. When they go down to Indy, they go to other places and do events. They make whatever that fee may be \$50 an hour, \$60 an hour. But I think it's an opportunity to sit down and have a conversation about what that looks like in terms of manpower. A majority of the officers are sometimes working within the city and there may only be a handful that may sign up to work and so those guys are wanting to be supported financially to come out and provide services as I know it. But if there's something that we can work out in the budget to have that money set aside I think that's the right thing to do as well. James asked if the Board can be involved in some of those negotiations, and Carl replied definitely. He can have that conversation on Monday as well to talk about having the Chief of Police and whoever he would have sitting in on those meetings and talking about how we can make it work.

PRAIRIE CREEK EVENT APPROVALS:

Tawny had one event to present to the Board for approval.

The Am Vets post 12 the Catfish Pirates, they're going to come out for their annual fishing tournament. This is 200-300 people. They raise money for veterans in the community. They fix their roofs. They do housework. They do anything that the veterans out here really need or ask for. They will rent a table look they. I don't know if they've gotten ahold of Nikki, they said they would. they usually get ahold of her to rent the tent from the park. Nikki stated they had. They won't have any vendors. Shannon asked when the event is and Tawny replied it is going to be Sunday, May 25th at 8 a.m. all the way to 2 p.m. I don't see anything about security and this is going to be in the beach area next to the first shelter.

Brad interjected, they've hosted this event out there before, haven't they, and Tawny replied yes. Last year they had about 300 people, and it's been growing. I think I was told they made like \$14,000 last year. So, it's a great thing to have out there for the community. Shannon inquired if this is a fundraiser for them, and Tawny replied, it is. Shannon asked if they're just going in the water, they're doing their fishing tournament. They have about 20 to 40 teams.

Brad asked if there were any questions regarding the Catfish Tournament.

Shannon asked if there will be alcohol, and Tawny replied she didn't believe so.

Brad asked if there were any other questions, and there were none. He stated he would entertain a motion to approve.

Chandra motioned for the approval of the event as presented. Motion was seconded by Mark.

Vote was taken by all Board members present. Motion carries. Motion approved 4 – 1 with Shannon Powers as the dissenting vote.

Shannon stated her concern was that there's no security. And just to be fair and equitable across all of our programming, we should have something where they have security. Chandra stated, they have done it before, right and Tawny replied, yes. Chandra asked if they had security last year, and Tawny replied she doesn't believe so. She added she will talk to him and is sure it won't be an issue. If you want to I can bring this back next month and we can talk about security. Brad interjected, we voted to approve it. He thinks that's something that we as a board need to look at having a standard for what's our threshold. I know we kind of talked about this a couple times is how do we establish which events do need security and how we move forward with those. Not only in the city parks, but out at Prairie Creek as well. Mark added insurance coverage is probably going to be important. If we're up to 300 people and it's making \$14,000, we probably need to be sure there's some kind of coverage that protects the city. Chandra inquired if we have that on any of our forms when they apply and Shannon asked if they have insurance. Chandra asked if we ask that of them, and Shannon replied, we do for the city parks for security but do we with the Prairie Creek form. Brad stated it's been a while since he looked at that form. Shannon stated we should have one form if we're really trying to integrate, we should maybe think about integrating forms, too. Tawny added, what they have for security just states that the event organizer shall be responsible to obtain and pay for security services. All public events require security. Brad interjected, so it's in the application. So, per the agreement, the contract there, they'll maybe provide that. Tawny stated she can't imagine a group that works with the military not having quick access to security. So, we'll make sure that is set up prior to this event.

Shannon asked is there any language about insurance on there, and Tawny stated she doesn't think that there is. But then again, she has read something somewhere, maybe in our rules about insurance, she doesn't know if it's on here, but it might be in our park rules. It might be something that needs added. Shannon suggested sending it to Aubrey Christ and ask where we put that in there, regarding insurance and security. Tawny added if we work on security for like an amount of people, we could get that added.

Brad asked about the other event she had and Tawny stated she would need to bring that one next month as she realized he scheduled it for the same weekend as Iron Man.

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

8. FRIENDS OF PRAIRIE CREEK – Jackie Sciscoe

I'm Christy. I'm a permanent camper out there and I also have a dock space. But while talking about security. I was at a meeting a few months back and we were talking about closing off. I was always told that it's a public park and I said well the sailboat club is also part of that and I was told no it's not. I said well there's signs and I was told no there's not. We took pictures and it clearly says members and guests only - no public access and there's chains across it. Brad stated the Sail Club has a separate lease that's tied to our lease with American Water, so they've got a separate lease. Christy asked if they could have access to that, and Brad stated he would have to review what their lease terms are and what their restrictions are and their agreement with them. Christy stated she just thinks that we should know that if we're going to say because she knows that they pay fees there, they keep their fees. Just like when you're combining the parks. Prairie Creek is pretty much self-funded, how's that going to work? So that was my input on that. The other thing is I'm looking for a new camper and I'm very limited because the electricity out there. Last summer the only thing I could run was my air conditioner. That's it. If I had my microwave turned on it tripped my air conditioner. I know a huge expense is the electricity out there. I, for one, would rather pay my own electricity, especially if I'm going to get 50-amp service because most campers require at least 30 amp. All the ones I'm looking at are 50 amp. The other thing is there are so many different sizes and I don't expect you guys to rework the sites. I would never ask that. I'm going to look at switch day to see if I can get to a bigger site. I know that there are people out there that have no room for anything but their camper. They can't even park their vehicles on their campsite because they're so small. Again, not asking you to revamp the campsites, but when you're looking at raising the rates, I feel like those rates, if I don't have the set size that this person has I don't think I should have to pay the same amount. As far as the electricity, I keep getting told that it's going to cost too much. Have we even looked? Brad replied we have, not recently within the last two years but we did have pricing. Christy stated there's three campsites that have 50-amp service. Shannon inquired where are those and Christy replied it was the mayor's spot, it was Nicholson, and K Walker's spot, and it's not hers anymore, but it was the three political people. This is not a political thing, I do not care about that. What I do care about is they get 50-amp service and all I can run is one air conditioner. I bought a smoker, I can't plug it in while the air conditioner is running. So, if you want to raise the rates, I think that this is going to become an issue. You're not going to have a lottery when people can't even put a new camper out there and run two air conditioners. again, I know that the biggest expense or a big huge expense is the electricity out there, if we're all paying our own and I know that there will be people that will be very upset, but they're not going to run their electricity when they're not there. Those air conditioners that are running all the time. My neighbor came out twice, all year long. His air conditioner ran

all year long, even when it was cold, so I found somebody that knew them and I'm like, you might want to check this. It was running hot air. So, you're paying for electricity when you don't need to be. And I know that if you're not out there very much and you don't leave your air conditioner on your electricity is not going to be that expensive. Yeah. So, I'm just asking because again I'm looking for a new camper and I'm limited to the size of camper and the power because if I'm going to plug in a 50 amp into a 20 amp it's going to create a problem. And it's not fair that there are some campsites, only three that have 50-amp service and the rest of us don't.

Mark replied your point's well taken. The individual metering for people to pay for their own is one aspect of it. And that seems like a fair way to address that, the problem is the infrastructure to redo the system is what we've been told. That's extremely expensive, too. We would like to redo the whole because it's not what we think should be provided, but it's the cost of doing that and where we would come up with the funds to do that. But I think we'd continue to be open to solutions to that. Christy stated she's not going to speak for everyone, but she would pay personally, because it's what I love about Prairie Creek is my boat is right there, and it's close to home. So, I'm there every weekend because it's close to home. However, there are other campgrounds and eventually that is going to become an issue, especially if you raise because we are cheap. It is cheap. I might not be very liked after this, but I don't care. The thing is, is I'm willing to pay more if I can have the camper that I want, and I can run my air conditioner and my oven when I make breakfast. I can't do any of those things. And when it's 100,000 degrees outside, which I can't wait after today, but you know, just something to think about as different options for us.

Mike Foster, the calm person of my life. We talked in some late fall, we know you guys have a lot of challenges. I've sat on boards and the time's limited. He wonders have we considered putting some type of steering committee to look at these major projects with the new combination of the park so that we can have some input and study. I'm a heavy equipment operator of local 103, I've run the equipment my whole life. One of the things I heard was we'd have to move everything but equipment is so small today from what it was when I started in the 80's. There are super small trenching systems that run up and down where nothing would be affected. By bringing all the players to the table with their expertise. I mean, I'm willing to volunteer to sit on boards like that so we can address that because is there ARP money, is there EDIT money, are we considered a state park, is there state funding out there? There's lots of different funds, are we applying for grants for this? I mean, we're saying it's a cost and I understand that, can that cost be subsidized through a little bit more hard work to see that there is a grant out here. Has the power company been contacted because some power companies will go in and develop an area whether it's a subdivision and or possibly this campsite because they're the ones going to reap all the rewards of the usage of it. You have other things whether it's popular or not with wind turbines and everything else. It just seems like there's a lot

of things out there I think we could be looking at other than saying what you guys would challenge all the time but it is a huge cost. I mean you're probably looking at one million plus the run-up through there but that along with a small subsidy. I shared in the meeting there last fall you know of the \$800,000 I seen on November's report \$550,000 of that was the slip renters and the campers so that those two groups of people are and my last question was is there any public information on that Sail Boat because what I'm researching from that is that the Sail Boat Club is still part of Prairie Creek even though it has a contract. I believe it to be with the city, I think you shared it's with American Electric. I haven't been able to identify that, sometimes getting those contracts are a little hard. They're really easy through a city not so much through a private entity but I guess the dovetail and back on you know the amount of money that the campers and the and the pier lessees put in contribution for this wonderful facility that we have is the way I'm understanding from that. We can't have the security gates down because it has to be freely traveled because it's part of the reservoir. Whether it's a sail boat, the horse, the ATV, the campground, that's all part of the reservoir, including the sail boat. So even though they may be able to mark off their section of the sail boat, like I do my campsite, I think you shared Mr. Marshall, they can't come up on my campsite, but they can walk the bank. And I do believe, even in that lease, that would constitute that bank going around. Not to make a big deal. I just think they don't proportionally pay a lot of money to Prairie Creek compared to the money that they take in. It almost makes me want to go back to the campground group of people and say why don't we become a 501(c)3 and incorporate ourselves, get the same deal as the Sail Boat Club has. The club controls all those 1 through 100, I think Tawny said, inside the campground, lease those, and then let's take our money in, like the Sail Boat Club, and let's manage it like the Sail Boat Club. I don't think that's conducive for what you guys are shooting towards, trying to make one park. But I think you still have a couple entities out there that's had pretty good deals over the year I think maybe needs to be re-evaluated. Brad stated there's one clarification there, the Sail Boat Club does pay Prairie Creek for these slip fees. Mike replied, the \$30,000 plus every slip that's down there. It's just they pay one rental fee. And anything they have down there where they rent their building out for festivities, they take all that money and put that back into their not-for-profit to pay about \$30,000. Our thought process is why don't we do the same thing as campers. Why don't we go around, talk to our campers and have the same set up which I think is not very conducive for the park. Like I shared earlier of the \$800,000 on the book as of November last year of \$520,000 of it was the boat rentals and the campsites. I think we're willing to come in and try to work with you guys in a way we can I don't know that all parties are but we definitely are. Brad thanked him for his input.

Shannon stated with our next five-year master plan, we have a survey but we could either add questions on, so everybody could answer questions about Prairie Creek on one survey. Or we could have a separate Prairie Creek survey so that we can ask people,

do you want 50-amp service? You know, that would be something. And we had a survey for security last spring that we had sent out to all campers to ask them about security. So maybe we need to pull that survey up when you're talking about security, because we have community voices that need to be heard for security. I think a big piece is going to guide us on what do people want? Not just campers, but you have to realize though. That's going to raise rates and there's a large voice that they're like absolutely don't raise rates. I can understand you're like well, we're going to see some improvements, so we're willing to pay but there is a huge cohort of people that don't want that to happen because they made it very clear to us that they don't want anything to change. They don't mind it being somewhat antiquated and at that lower level. I know you know them but they've kind of heard it in and we are to keep this, and that's why they're there. Christy interjected, if the rates go up because you've improved things, and they can't afford it, then we might get different people in there. Brad stated that's one of the things that I'm interested to look at as the board this year is how we've been at this new rate for-- this will be the second to see how it affects the lottery, see what kind of interest and input we're still receiving on that lottery. Mike said it seems there were a lot of empty spots this year, but Brad said all the spots were paid for this year and there were none that we were not receiving revenue from those spots this year.

Tawny added she wanted to point out to Carl and the rest of the Board members that didn't come to the October meeting, there was a lot of feedback on them. A lot of the people were saying that they would pay for extra things like security or electric. Those were the two main things. I think going forward with that plan, if we really wanted to see what the people out there were saying, if they really were willing to it'd be a great idea to go forward with asking them. Last year we had a lot of feedback on the things they sent out to the community like inside the reservoir. She's sure Brad and Shannon remember they came pretty deep and there was a lot of talk about these things that mean a lot to them and they'd be willing to pay for it, so I just wanted you guys to know that there were a lot of people not just the two here today. Christy added it's going to become an issue anyways because not every site is the same. Some people can run more things and others can't. I put in a work order and they came out and checked mine and said there's nothing wrong with it but yet I can only run one thing at a time but then there's other campsites like Nathan can run more than one thing, and they can run more than one thing, so it's different boxes are different, so to me there's going to be an issue with electricity out there eventually whether we want it or not.

Nathan Buck said we were talking about security. I don't remember the numbers, but I want to say we had a \$75,000 budget for security, and we spent \$9,000 of that last year. I don't know if there were more security costs. I'm just saying the paper that I saw, I would like to try to spin that before we start putting more money on us for security if that's possible. He added that James brought up something great, like if we're a city park out there, the city police should patrol that park, shouldn't they? To a certain

extent, I'm not saying like all day every day, but at least like sometimes they drive out through there, make their presence known. And then if we have that, then maybe 11 o'clock to 7 o'clock, or 5 o'clock or whatever, maybe six or seven hours at night, we have a police officer that we pay that can arrest people to come in. And that might be that would save us some dollars as far as paying for 12 hours or eight hours or whatever, because it's a city park. The police should patrol it to a certain extent. So, without being part of a security fund or raise money or whatever, right? Brad interjected on the 75 number, I think I've discussed it a little bit before. The beginning of last year, they had I wouldn't say it was an agreement, but they had some steps in place that they were going to look at having police staff out there. So that \$75,000 was earmarked to have an officer out on site. That agreement or understanding didn't work out the way we expected it to. And that price was going to be almost double because of the staffing they wanted to require for the police for their safety. They wanted two officers but it was earmarked for one, so it doubles. The security we did have out there the majority of that was actually paid out of the part-time labor line. Nathan asked so that's where that was over budget, and Brad replied the part-time line was over budget. That's where the security that was out there that we did provide in addition to the normal security we have, that's where those line items came out of. Nathan said he just knew that I saw \$9,000 out of the \$75,000, so I mean so this coming year is it still there, and Brad replied he believes that's still the line item but I don't think it's that much. I think it was reduced to \$60,000, but for 2024 it was \$75,000.

Brad stated we know that security is one of the top issues and concerns out there. Security and amenities are the top two. Nathan replied, as far as the power goes, you guys say that you, but who has talked to the power company? Have you talked to the power company? Brad replied he has not personally. Nathan asked how do we start that step to say, hey, if we come in and we meter 220 campsites, what will you charge to put in the power? Is that a conversation that could start that way? Brad replied he knows Dustin and Tawny had some of those conversations. Nathan asked if that was metering every single place, and Brad replied it was and it came it around \$1.5 million and that was two years ago. Mark added that was to meter every single place, and it was the infrastructure to actually put the system in place. He doesn't think anyone would have a problem with having that discussion. Again, it's been two or three years. Nathan asked if AP maybe offered grants or something like that. He knows they're not going to pay for meters. Somebody's going to have to go out there and set 220 meters and probably four by four posts and all of that. He knows it's going to cost a lot, but I mean, as far as the power being put in. and I hear a lot about like dollar for dollar upgrading facilities and stuff like that when it comes to power companies, especially if there's old junky power and if there's an old power out there they might be willing to do some subsidy type stuff. Brad added the other piece of that was I know when we're looking at redoing the power, we anticipated that the water would need to be addressed at that same time. You're

interfacing with the water or you really got to do that at the same time and it's a little cheaper, but there's going to be a significant expense associated with that as well. Nathan interjected, the problem with that is, is that one contractor couldn't do that. If you could do like one contractor doing at the same time, but the power company would have to have their own. They're not going to put in power at the same time. So, it's going to be two separate sets of contractors. So that would be double the cost. Mark stated he didn't want to speak for my colleagues on the board, but I think I feel safe in saying this. I think we would all like to see the electrical system, the water upgraded. And I don't think any of us would be resistant to looking at options and studying. We've always, when we've looked at it, we've never been able to get an agreement. And I think something that Brad and Shannon said, there was a very large group that made it very clear that no increase in cost was one of the charms of Prairie Creek compared to everywhere else. But there is not going to be any such thing as a free lunch. We've got to figure out how to do it. Nathan replied he doesn't want his rates to go up either if he doesn't get anything for it. If I'm going to give more money, I want to know what I'm getting. Mark replied accountability is really important. Nathan added there's a lot of people that are willing to help. Mark stated he personally would not want to be a small user of electricity and be subsidizing everyone else. He likes the idea of meters. I think everybody should be able to use what they want to use, but pay for it and how we get there is just philosophically I think that's the right way to do it. Yeah figuring out how to get there is a challenge. Nathan added even if it's this year, next year, five years down the road, if you can talk to AEP, talk to engineers, talk to whoever and they say we've done this in the past or maybe we could come up with or try to get some outside funding like grants. I'm sure there's stuff that can be done to help offset the cost. Shannon asked if he would be willing to be part of that steering committee with Mike Foster and he replied absolutely. He added he knows a lot about underground utility. Shannon replied it sounds like you two are very knowledgeable and maybe Jim could serve on that committee as the Board member with his background as well. Jim said he will.

Brad stated he knows we've talked about a couple individual conversations that our five-year plan is coming up here due next year. We didn't overlook Prairie Creek, but we didn't spend a lot of focus on it on the past five -year plan and that is certainly a focus on this next five-year plan is to include some major issues and some vision out there.

Nathan stated his biggest complaint is the 4th of July. That's my biggest complaint out of the whole thing. Yeah, I mean, I got people walking through my campsite parking in front of my camp. Yeah, I mean, it's like the Wild West. So that's not I mean, people quiet. I mean, we're on the front and then we've got the road right behind this. You got people flying up and down that. That's where I want the security. I mean there's a lot of people acting crazy out there and people are driving through your site trying to get around to get out. It's like you knew what was going to happen when you came out here.

When my friends come out I'm like hey you're here for at least an hour after the fireworks. Just hang out, you can't get out.

9. OLD BUSINESS – PCR RATES AND RULES

Brad stated we had a few items of old business.

We talked a little bit already about Kellie and her new hire there. Carl interjected, as it is stated here, the actual title won't be Assistant Superintendent, but it'll be Working Foreman. We've had some discussions with Patty in HR as it was on some of the applications and so there's been some changes to it but that'll fall right in with some of the day-to-day operation that Kellie will be responsible for like getting feedback from the campground people and those folks that have concerns. Actually, having a working person between our park system, I think it's going to be a plus. Sitting down with Tawny, just for the records, Tawny is being the Office Operation Manager, and having to be the Field Manager as well, doing it several times. I thought she got kind of overwhelmed and kind of thrown into the fire. So, my hat's off to her. I think she has done a wonderful job. Looking at some of the duties that Kellie will have, it will take some of that load off. She'll be able to directly get with the maintenance people and the people actually in the field and then bring feedback back to myself and then we figure out if we need to continue with committees and things on what we need to do to make Prairie Creek be what it can be. And we can have these discussions about the power. I know we've had discussions about power for five years that I know of. I think having the committee together and looking at costs and then looking at ways we can upgrade our campground site would definitely be the way to go. But it takes time, it's a process, but I think having the committee to look at what we can do would be a great amenity to Prairie Creek as well. Some of her duties and responsibility will be to coordinate activities out there at Prairie Creek with the office, maintenance and the campground people as things come up. Brad added on that same note and we can have some board discussion here, I know in the past it's kind of functioned both ways. It's been a Working Foreman in the parks that was longer ago and then our most recent history that Working Foreman's been dedicated out of Prairie Creek. I think there's workload and justification that you could have two Working Foremen or an Assistant Superintendent, whatever you want to title it, but I could see that there's justification or reason to have both. A foreman that's in town working with Carl, dedicated there, and one that is dedicated out of Prairie Creek. Clearly there's some funding issues and how do we get there. But maybe that's something we can envision as we look into in the five-year plan as well. I think that Kelly coming in with her experience with the parks is going to be great. She's not starting cold. She's got an idea of what we've got going and I am looking to really get some feedback from her on what's working, and what's not. Hopefully, we can overflow our wheelbarrow here in the beginning and then turn it back and figure out what's reasonable and how do we structure this and support the team out there. Carl

stated he agreed with that as well. Brad asked if there were any other thoughts, requests or vision on how we're going to be using the Working Foreman position and Kellie's new role. This would be a good time for questions or thoughts here. Kelly, I know you're one day in. You're two days in now. Chandra stated she thinks it's a good idea. I owe it to the boss. I think Kelly is a good pick for it. Shannon added she thinks job descriptions need to be very clear. Your communication needs to be open, because there's a lot of personalities, and some people have worked for this city for a long period of time and are set in their ways. And then there's new people. So, I just think handing Kellie a clear job description is super important. Carl replied, HR is working on that as we speak. Shannon doesn't want Kellie to get blamed for things she didn't know she was supposed to do. it's a big piece of it and communication I think is huge for everybody. James stated he thinks the primary focus should be Prairie Creek and subsidizing in town. Prairie Creek needs a lot of work, so we need to get it straightened back up. Shannon inquired if it is 3 -2 like 3 at Prairie Creek and 2 in town? Carl replied that just was tossed out, but you know there may be times she's out there all five days a week. Look at it like this we've worked five years without a Working Foreman. I just always brought Richard and individuals out so they could kind of see my day as it goes. And so, if it's a situation where she's out there two weeks in a row because she's needed out there for that time period. I don't think she has to be three days in, two days out, vice versa. If it calls for her to be out there for the timeframe, that's just going to be communicated and documented and that's where she'll be. And then we'll function in our park system, the way we functioned fine for the five years, we just said that that person is needed as we try to grow. James asked if this position is replacing Dustin's position and Carl replied, yes. Chandra added, she thinks it makes sense in how we're trying to work towards merging the parks anyway, not giving her a set designation at least until we can get her an assistant. Mark stated he really likes the idea and thinks this is a really good first step and thinks it's going to be really good. It's going to benefit the parks, it's going to benefit Prairie Creek which is a park. I think it's really important that we not stop here because I think what everybody wants is an excellent park right for the city of Muncie and personally I think there's more than enough work probably to support a position at Prairie Creek and a position in the parks that both report to the superintendent right and summer is the time you know May, June, July, when they start talking about budgets. That's the time to talk to the Mayor, to the City Council and say, this is working well, but how much better it can work if we have someone devoted to both places. Carl stated he thinks we can get there. I just think we had a point now where it's time to make that move, make that improvement in budget and staffing. Because we are working to improve our park systems. The last five years we all know what all has been done from when we started out at Prairie Creek as well and then in our city parks. I feel that's going to continue to have growth and timelines and so the timing is right for us to have those individuals in place. When you look at the flow chart from previous park plans five-year plans, you'll see the reduction in staffing in our park system now versus

what was in the actual chain of command structure over those other years as well. So, it's always, it's the funding and putting the funding in the right place. But if we're doing the work and we can create the work and we can show the work, then I think that puts us in a good place to request. Brad asked Kellie if she had anything to add and she replied not at this time. Brad asked if there was anything else from the Board on that topic and there was nothing additional.

Playground update: Westside and Aultshire. Brad stated in the last meeting we discussed there were some preliminary designs being discussed and reviewed. He inquired if anything was updated there? Carl stated there's not much on Aultshire. I know that's one that the Mayor talked about to me personally as to what we could do. There is some playground money in our budget that we're going to do a little bit of work with. Friday I'm meeting with shelter people to look at replacing the shelter there at Aultshire. I looked at the framework and the roofing and it does need to be replaced. So, I'm meeting Friday to discuss costs. The basketball court definitely is outdated and we need to remove those goals and backboards. As I recall there's one line that may need to be sealed. I think we can seal that, paint that court and bring that court back to life. So those two things I know we can get done within our budget and then I'll still be in conversation about the playground stuff. You know we have this old rubber mulch that's in there right now and then the playground is old itself too so we've got to look at maybe a grant, cost, a 50 /50 type matching grant to get in place and remove that. But I know we're going to work on the shelter and the basketball court first, and then the actual playground will come in line after we get those two up. So that's what I know about Aultshire.

And then Westside, we just met with Commercial Recreation who came out to give us some renderings. We met with them to look at costs. So, we've got to do some follow-up with them and then check with the neighborhood association. I think Community Development is in that area and so we're going to see if we can get some support from Community Development to help with the cost for the renderings that we've gotten from CRG. The playground at Westside Park also has old equipment that has been in there for a long time. That particular park is used a lot daily. So, if we can get the playground structure put in place with the skate park and we continue to work on the basketball court and the baseball diamond, I think we've really got a nice product there at Westside. So that's the hope and that's the vision to make upgrades there at Westside.

Shannon asked is there any way to fix the ponding on the base of the baseball diamond and Carl replied we've looked at that before and I think the city engineer would need to go out and take a look and see what needs to happen. I don't know how much it would cost to get that to drain the right way because it wouldn't make sense to put a new surface in there and you still have the same water coming up. So, it's a situation where the water, I don't know if that's draining that needs to be looked at, but I think if we're

going to invest in that park the way we have, I think that needs to be looked at as well. So that's another thing I can follow up with on Monday to get our city engineer take a look at that.

Chandra asked is the walkway, the trail that goes by Westside Park into the river, is that Cardinal Greenway and Shannon replied it's White River Greenway. Chandra shared her thoughts in making the improvements to the park if it can be considered that we put like a staircase going down that hill. I know when me and my children go to that park they want to go play in the water or play by the water and that hill is pretty steep. Walking all the way down to Timbuktu with little kids to get to the path is a lot, so I think that would be a good addition to that as well or something to get down there. Carl replied that would be great. I think that'd be something nice to go right in with the plan, of the vision that we have for Westside. I really do think it is doable to facelift Westside this year, or maybe the year following depending on the costs. I see so many people there all the time.

Carl added regarding the baseball diamond, I think Mr. James asked were we getting help and support for the lighting things that nature. That's kind of been put on the back burner from what we were told and so we need to follow up with Sanitation and some of the board members to see where we are. The way it was brought to our team that could have been put on hold for us, the people that was going to help assist with moving the lighting. So, they were waiting, the ground got hard, and then all of a sudden, they decided to put it on the back burner. So, we did not move forward as I thought we were. So, I was a little surprised by the change of plans. We still have the lights out there at the sports complex along with the scoreboards. We were hoping to bring five of those scoreboards in. We were going to put three of them up in our city parks and then put lighting at Westside Park and at Muncie Central High School's baseball diamond. That's another conversation I can have on Monday to see who's making the call on that plan and where we are with that decision.

Brad stated he didn't have anything new on Tillpond. I know we've kind of got it on our agenda here. He asked if Carl had anything new from his end as the last he knew it was still in permit approval land. Carl replied he didn't have any updates either.

Next on the old business, we've got floating dock update on here. Brad said we kind of touched on it a little bit. I know Mark and I did receive an email from Jeff. They're looking at some funding sources for that, initially financing to finish out those docks. I think that's something that the board will need to discuss and review. Historically, the docks we've installed have either been paid for from grants or I think there's edit and/or ARP on one of the installations or from our revenue at Prairie Creek. Personally, again, not speaking for the board, but I've got concerns about financing those and how we really intend to pay for that long term, especially if we're looking at other major

initiatives out there, it ties us up for some duration of time. My preference would be to continue to pay for them through grants and other sources that don't create a debt for the department in the Prairie Creek. But I also understand the benefit in getting them done and getting it off the list and kind of moving toward the next project. I think that's still pretty preliminary. There's been some background work being done. But I've not seen any formal proposals or anything for us to review yet. But I want to make sure the rest of the Board and the public are aware that's one of the funding sources we're looking at is financing for this. And that kind of talks about any improvements that we look at the campground as well, is potential financing. And if this is something we've historically Prairie Creek I don't believe it has gone that route, to my knowledge, but it's something that we can certainly look at as the Board and the fiscal body for that.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Brad stated we've got the YMCA pool contract. I know we talked a little bit about that last month, probably need to be nailing them down either in February or March to really get that established. I don't know if we've had a discussion there. Carl stated that's correct. Nikki and I actually talked about it today. We'll have it reviewed and then have legal give their input on it as well, like they've had in the previous years, and then bring that before the Board for questions and/or approval.

James asked if all the repairs were made at Tuhey with that last vandalism at the end of the year? Carl replied yes, we're fine there. It was minor. The money wasn't a real large amount, but there were some small costs that were needed for repairs. From an operational standpoint, our regular costs that we spend with Buddenbaum just on operation, I think one of the bigger things we didn't have last year was a vacuum. We need to make sure we have that put in our plans this year to have that at the start. I think that was the biggest thing that we didn't have. That's the day-to-day operation. That's a lot of the cleaning of the pool. And then the geese situation is still something that we've got to figure out. It's what people see when they come into the pool, walkway and things of that nature. We've got to figure something out with that. It's a city issue. It's really not on the Y. It's really on the city to get that worked out.

Shannon added she thinks we need better security with the cameras and for when the pool's closed. And better door locks. We need to just secure that facility better so that doesn't happen again. Carl added we may have to change our security cameras and go with a different brand if need be so that we've got visual of not only the pool area but the whole ground itself and see what's out there to upgrade. Shannon added and maybe have some sensor lights. So, if somebody is on the property, boom, lights are on. We don't have that there at all. There've been children, teenagers, that will jump over the fences and swim in the pool at night. If we had lights that were on them that might be a

deterrent. Brad stated we'll keep that on the agenda and hopefully have something in February or March here.

Our last new business item is a truck purchase. Carl stated in our budget we have our capital equipment line item. We purchased one truck. Our fleet is kind of old. The fleet has been there since I came in, and beyond. So, we're trying to purchase a couple of vehicles each year to change out some of our vehicles is what I'm asking the Board to look at. We can provide you with an inventory of what we have in our shop right now and then be able to look at changing out vehicles each year. Changing one or two, depending on what we spend our money on. But it is in the budget for us to change out and purchase trucks.

My truck was hit. I was hit in a pretty serious accident last Sunday and I'm lucky to be here. I avoided a T-Bone and right now it's in the yard at Northwest Wrecker. I still don't know the damage. I did get a text from the insurance company, and our guy, Brent Webster, was out of town. So as of right now, my work truck is over in Northwest Wrecker, and it's been there since Sunday. So, I'm driving my personal car right now. I've been in that for about a week. We do need to have a conversation about our vehicles and the status of the ones that we have in our fleet.

Brad stated if we've got it in the budget there, I think that's something that we as Board would support that we make sure that those are functional and working vehicles for the teams. The only thing I'd add there is I would hope that there's some collaboration between the different departments in the city that if you've got a vehicle purchase, if Sanitary's got a vehicle purchase, if Police or code enforcement's got a vehicle purchase, maybe there's some opportunity for some package discounts or some deals to be worked out there, will probably be the other direction is make sure we're working across teams to get the best deal possible.

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

11. ACTION ITEMS

Brad asked if there were any action items or events needing approval and there were none.

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

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

Carl had one item for the Board. With Tawny and Nikki, they really communicate well. Nikki's always calling and keeps me informed on what's going on with outside people in terms of questions that they have for the park. Tawny as well. And then we've got Patty in HR. She's working with us to try to get all the job descriptions and stuff like that

worked out. I appreciate having the opportunity to work with those three to keep us going until we can get ourselves in a better situation. Thanks to both of you, Nikki and Tawny. I appreciate it. And now that we've got Kellie on board, we've got a team that's ready to rock. Thank you.

Brad added before we get out of here, I want to thank Carl for all his hard work dealing with some adversity here with staffing. But I think Kellie's going to be a great addition or a great shift. She's not an addition, I guess, because she's been with us. And then I also want to thank Prairie Creek and the Friends of Prairie Creek, you guys' diligence and dedication in attending these meetings. It's important that you guys are here. And I encourage other public folks that are watching at home to come and join us as well. We haven't always agreed with you guys. And we've had some heated debates. But I think we're always moving in the right direction. So, I appreciate you guys being here to provide the feedback.

There were no additional public comments.

Meeting was adjourned by Brad Marshall, President.

*** Next Park Board meeting is currently scheduled for February 18, 2025, at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium.**

Park Board Meeting Public Input Sign In Sheet

Date: 1/21/25

Name (Please Print)

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