

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes
City of Mount Vernon
May 19, 2015 - City Hall

The Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation Board met on May 19, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Lori Boren, Mike Cranston, Catherine Poduska and Scott Rose. Absent: Kelli Chapman. Also in attendance: Parks and Recreation Director, Matt Siders.

1. Approval of the Agenda. Motion made by Boren, seconded by Cranston to approve agenda. Carried all.
2. Approval of the Minutes from March 17, 2015 meeting. Motion made by Boren, seconded by Poduska to approve minutes. Carried all.
3. Open Forum: Each citizen is limited to 5 minutes.
4. Directors Report - April and May 2015. New park signs will be installed later this month. Spring soccer is finished and baseball, softball and t-ball has started. As of right now we do not have a swim team coach at the pool. Also, the pool will not open on Memorial Day due to weather and mechanical issues. V&K Engineering analyzed the pool filters as well as an outside company. Roto Rooter came out and put new sand in the filters. Siders is currently analyzing the pool right now with V&K Engineering and Mount Vernon's Public Works Director. He will be going to Council soon with a recommendation of renovations. After the pool shuts down for the season he hopes to go out for bids for the renovations. Chalk the Walk was a success again this year. The Easter Egg Bash and Spring Cleanup went well. The motor of the 6 wheel gator went out. There are 10 t-ball teams, 10 coach pitch teams and 4 player pitch teams with a total of approximately 220 kids playing. Adult coed softball is coming up in June. Summer camps will be starting soon. Jim Baty approached Siders with a new concept called Fit 60 for 4th and 5th grades.
5. Discussion regarding United Methodist Church and Day of Service in Mount Vernon Parks. The United Methodist Church has a "day of service" where instead of having service inside the church, they have a breakfast and then bring their members out into the community to do some service items. They contacted Siders about items that needed to be done in the parks. Mike Cranston has stepped up to help coordinate with the church what items need to be done. Siders will compile a list of items to be done.
6. Discussion regarding Tobacco Free Parks. Kurt Wheeler with ASAC approached Siders with this concept. Marianne Taylor asked Siders about it and asked if the

Parks and Rec Board could discuss it. Rose said that there is currently a smoking ban in all City parks but this would add all tobacco use. Marion has already adopted this and Cedar Rapids is considering currently considering it. Rose said he has a problem with adding chewing tobacco to the ban. Siders will ask Kurt to come to the June meeting to discuss this in further detail.

7. Work Session regarding Master Parks Plan. Board members began by discussing input received from Council members on the questions that Siders sent to them. Visions for the parks and their usage was discussed as well as other community needs. Siders informed board members that Council will be having discussions about reallocating LOST funds, which could affect trails and the community center. Siders would like to see a City Council liaison added to the Parks and Recreation Board to attend meetings. The board also discussed plans for future changes/upgrades at the City parks. The content of the current plan has not changed since the last meeting. Revisions will be made based off of tonight's discussions. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.
8. Subcommittee reports (Parks, Capital, Pool, Programming, and Volunteer).
9. Old Business.
10. New Business. The board will discuss changing the date of the July meeting at their next meeting in June.
11. Motion made by Cranston, seconded by Boren to adjourn the meeting, the time being 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marsha Dewell, Deputy Clerk.