



TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY
Parks Advisory Board
Date: January 30, 2024
Minutes



Call to Order	Michael Smith called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.
Roll Call	Present: Michael Smith, Matt Waldron, Renee Cannon, Brandy King, Nerissa Aquino, AC Clark and Mayor JT Smith
Approval of agenda	Matt Waldron motion to approve, Mayor JT Smith seconded motion, approved by voice vote
Approval of minutes	Matt Waldron motion to approve, Brandy King seconded motion, approved by voice vote
Partner reports	<p><u>Soccer</u> - Renee Cannon reported that Cheatham Soccer has been doing signup. They have about 120 kids signed up and expect 75-100 more. Practice will begin at the beginning of March with games starting at the end of March going through the middle of May.</p> <p><u>Baseball/Softball</u> - Matt Waldron reported that softball has begun online signup and expects to have kids start registering in February. He reported that they are changing affiliations again to Diamond Youth Softball (formally Dixie Youth Softball), this will put them in a new district. They are currently looking for more board members to help run the league.</p> <p>Matt Waldron asked AC Clark if the sewer work that is being done around the softball fields would be done by the start of the season. AC Clark reported that he has talked to the workers several times and they said it would be complete by the start of the season. Matt Waldron asked if once they are done if they could do some grading to help with the pooling of water, AC Clark and Mayor JT Smith said they would stop by and ask the workers if they could do that once work is complete.</p> <p>AC Clark reported that baseball has also started sign ups.</p>
Parks Reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. AC Clark reported that they are still on track with the trail extension. They have everything done on their side for the agreement to the 25 year lease with RJ Corman, they are waiting on RJ Corman for a final signature. Construction must start in July or the grant will be forfeited. Once RJ Corman signs the paperwork it will be transitioned over to TDOT to finish/finalize the project plan. AC Clark noted that we have been waiting on RJ Corman since Thanksgiving to sign the paperwork for the lease. Matt Waldron suggested that the Mayor reach out to State Representative Mary Littleton to see if she could push this paperwork through on the RJ Corman side, Mayor JT Smith said he would reach out to her.2. Matt Waldron asked AC Clark when the budget for next year would be turned in and requested that the Parks Board review his plans for the next year. Matt said this would help the board know what Parks Department is doing in the next year and would help the board to be able to answer questions from the citizens of Ashland City.3. Michael Smith asked AC Clark about the dock expansion at Riverbluff Park. Mayor JT Smith said that he has been meeting with individuals to get everything that is needed for the expansion donated. He has confirmed donation of 24 tons of concrete and the rebar needed. Once all the materials are confirmed Bass Nation organizers will get the labor donated and the dock would take about 4 or 5 days to complete.

Parks Reports	4. Michael Smith inquired when the new lake would be open to the public. Matt Waldron reported that fish were delivered to the lake 14 months ago and that TN Wildlife has been out checking the growth of the fish. Once everything dries out fish attractive stations will be installed to help with fish habitat and growth. Matt reported that we are still a ways out from being open to the public, roads, sidewalks, bathrooms and other public infrastructure will need to be completed before it opens to the public.
Old Business	
Parks Facebook Page	AC Clark reported that he and Renee Cannon had completed the classes that the City had requested before the page be started. Renee Cannon reported she would be meet with Gayle Bowman on Thursday to see about going live with the page.
New Business	
2024 Event Calendar	Renee Cannon proposed a list of events for the next year. Michael Smith requested that the board review what Renee Cannon provided as well as think of some more events that can be done. Nerissa Aquino suggested that we add some workshop type events that focus on safety, wildlife, economic growth and self-preservation. AC Clark said that he has been looking in to other counties to see what all they provide, he said a Father/Daughter and Mother/Son dance are very popular and would like to see us implement that event in the next year.
Caldwell Park	Michael Smith reported that he would like to see some events held at Caldwell Park this year. He would like to see the park utilized more so that hopefully we can more interest in the park and make some improvements to parking and utilities.
AARP Livable Grant	Nerissa Aquino reported that AARP will be granting 16 million in quick action grants. These grants can be granted on a range of items. Some examples are small green spaces, park benches, farmers market improvements and livable communities. She asked that the board to brainstorm what we could do for the community and submit a grant request. The deadline for the grants are March 6 th .
Food Truck Mondays	AC Clark reported that he would like to do this again this year. He would like the 1 st Monday of the month to be lunch and the 3 rd Monday of the month be dinner. The board agreed with AC Clark and laid out the schedule for the year. This will begin in April and run through the end of September. Lunch schedule will be 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and dinner will be 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Matt Waldron made a motion for the above schedule to be approved, Brandy King seconded motion, approved by voice vote.
Parks Events	
Other Items	
Farmers Market	Michael Smith said there was some interest in extending the market days for this year at the City Council Meeting. Renee Cannon suggested we run until the end of September. The board agreed that would be a good start for this year and to re-evaluate next year if we need to extend it again.
Next Meeting	February 20, 2024 at the Senior Citizen Center, 6:00 pm
Adjournment	Matt Waldron made a motion to adjourn at 7:15pm, Brandy King seconded motion, approved by vote.