



MINUTES

RILEY COUNTY PARK ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

June 11, 2019

The Riley County Park Advisory Board met at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at the Riley County Administration Building, 6215 Tuttle Creek Blvd. Board members in attendance were Joe Edmunds, Dave Suhling, Ken Carroll, Alan Brown, Curt Friedrich, and Deandra Anderson. Staff members in attendance were Leon Hobson, David Willis, Gregg Eyestone, and Mary Graham.

The meeting was called to order by board chair, Joe Edmunds. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Leon Hobson introduced our new Park Manager, David Willis. David gave a short summary of his previous work experience and personal history. He also discussed goals to improve our parks.

The following is an update on the community park purchases for 2019;

Randolph – no report Janie Dunstan was not in attendance

Leonardville – no purchases have been made

University Park – purchased picnic tables and materials for counter tops, looking into trees for planting

Riley – they will be purchasing kiddie cushion later in the year

Ogden – engineer is working on plans for restroom, and there has been no progress on the baby pool area

Fairmont Park – the large park shelter is in process of being authorized by the BOCC

Keats – Dave Suhling did not know about the budgeted playground equipment

David gave an update on current county park projects and expressed the need to limb up trees in county parks. The board watched a presentation on limbing up trees. Discussion on how best to do this and when. Joe Edmunds offered labor to help remove trees in Fairmont Park.

Fairmont Park – It was suggested a higher turf quality on all fields might bring more people to the parks. We need to seed and repair irrigation to improve football fields.

Seems to be a declining interest in soccer. What might the goals be concerning all of the county ball fields? The possibility of working with Eddie Eastes at the City of Manhattan to determine needs in the community was suggested.

Keats – Need to improve the ballfield. We have sprayed for broadleaf and had feedback from the community about preserving the small town feel. The ballfield floods and should be raised to be utilized as a practice field. There is an interest in a small picnic shelter. A shelter big enough for two tables is preferable.

There have been reports of three instances where foul balls have flown into the playground area. It was suggested since we are putting in new playground equipment, maybe it should be moved to a safer location leaving the basketball court where it is. Possibility of moving the playground west of the basketball court. The board agree by consensus in favor of moving forward with a possible Caroline Piene grant to fund part of the playground.

The next Park Board meeting will be at Fairmont Park.

Meeting adjourned.