

City of Collinsville

Minutes

Park and Recreation Advisory Commission  
Special Meeting

Tuesday, September 3, 2024

6:00 pm

Activity Center

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A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Gary called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

**Present:** Colon, Cook, Gary, Gottschalk, and Seaton

**Absent:** Bronnbauer

Also present: Director of Parks and Recreation Kimberly Caughran, Superintendent of Willoughby Farm Carol Freker and Superintendent of Aquatics Kate Fischer.

C. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

D. DISCUSSION

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. A motion was made by Seaton, seconded by Gottschalk to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2024, meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5

Nay: 0

Absent: 1

Abstain: 0

F. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Story Walk at Glidden Park in Cooperation with the Library: The local library has reached out to work in cooperation with the City to put together at Glidden Park. The story walk would consist of 16 panels where the readers walk along the path and read the story while enjoying the park. The total cost is around \$5000. The Friends of the Library have agreed to donate up to \$2000. The rest would need to be negotiated with an intergovernmental agreement between the two governmental entities.
- b. Capital Improvement Priorities: The committee members discussed many of the items in the long list of capital projects over the department for the foreseeable future. The basketball court replacement at Woodland Park came out as a priority. The sports complex development or lack there of was a hot button issue. The ability to apply for

grants through St. Clair and Madison Counties was discussed. Seaton expressed his priorities as baseball fields and the basketball court; Gottschalk stated her priorities are the Aqua Park, Colon baseball, Willoughby Farm and the Aqua Park.

G. OLD BUSINESS

H. STAFF REPORT

Fischer reported that summer is officially over. Yet she is already planning for next season. Painting, winterizing and all of the off-season duties are priority.

Frerker reported that the farm season is picking back up in the fall with Fall Farm Day scheduled for the first Saturday in October. Fall is one of the busiest times at Willoughby. She reported on the upcoming programs in the sustainability series. She is also working with the CAVC on combined efforts on urban agriculture.

Caughran gave Siebert's report in her absence.

Drop in Adult Volleyball has started for the season on every Monday night that school is in session. Tunes at Blum starts tomorrow night with Sweetbottom Band. The costume swap is currently collecting gently used costumes for the event to be held October 8-10. Registration is open for the Halloween House Decorating Contest. Bonfires & Brews is changing up a bit in hopes of raising attendance. Caughran continued with the upcoming Christmas parade and programming information. Gottschalk asked about the Trunk or Treat. It will be held on October 17 at Glidden Park.

Caughran gave Chestnut's report in his absence. The playground equipment is going in at Morris Hills Park. A large mum order has been placed for community-wide beautification. Small playground repairs are keeping the crew busy.

Caughran gave her report last stating the pickleball and tennis court resurfacing has been approved by City Council. She reported on the IGA with the school for improvements at Fletcher Field. She reported that Collinsville will be hosting the professional organization SIPRA at Woodland Park at 10:30 am.

I. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

Seaton reported that he encouraged someone to fill out an application for the commission vacancy.

J. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

K. ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Seaton, seconded by Colon to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5  
Nay: 0  
Absent: 1  
Abstain: 0