

Pendleton Park Board Meeting Minutes  
October 23, 2019

I. Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Park Board President Bryan Williams. Additional Board Members attending were Jennifer Roberts, Stephen Bill, Laretta Gray, Joshua Ring and Steve Denny. Also attending were Park Attorney Bill Davisson, Director of Maintenance Donnie Meyer and Executive Assistant Denise McKee.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Laretta Gray, second by Jennifer Roberts, minutes from September 25, 2019 meeting approved.

**III. Public Comments-Attendees: Scott Davis, Todd Miller, Laura Meyer, Dusten Tryon, Tony Link, Mark Gentry and Wayne Blosser.**

A. **Comments and Questions from the Public:** no comments/questions presented.

**IV. Big Lug Report**

a. No representation from Big Lug. Laretta Gray asked if any of the Board Members have been out to the golf course to see any of the changes/updates of the restaurant. Joshua Ring replied that he has visited and pleased with the improvements – name change to Sahms Smokehouse Beer Barn & BBQ; new color scheme, sign and menu.

**V. Sports Complex Update**

- a. Todd Miller reported on the Sports Complex. Todd Miller reported the following:
- 1.) Season is coming down to an end with Co-ed Softball ending 10/24/19.
  - 2.) HHC 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Conference Championships will be held at the Sports Complex for the first time on 11/2/2019.
  - 3.) Sports Complex will then be dark until March 2020.
  - 4.) Go live date for Community Health Anderson is scheduled for 11/1/19. Invoice has been mailed out this past week and should see payment next week. Press releases will take place on Falls Park website, Sports Complex Facebook and Community Health Anderson website simultaneously.
  - 5.) After meeting with Brian Slick, Stephen Bill, Steve Denny and Aaron Burris, taking quotes to recondition Diamond 3 to lower ground level. One contractor indicated that he may be able to complete by end of November, yet expect other contractors to propose finish by third week in March.
  - 6.) Met with representatives from PBA regarding hosting tournaments and sponsorships. PBA expressed they are interested in partnership versus sponsorship this next year, projecting to host 6 – 7 PBA tournaments in 2020.
  - 7.) Joshua Ring asked if better to get fields ready before the spring hits. Todd Miller replied that it is too late in the season to get grass to grow. Todd Miller further stated that he plans to tear out the grass on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, but would prefer to recondition the fields in the spring.

**VI. Golf Course Report**

- a. Scott Davis reported on the Golf Course. Scott Davis reported the following:

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- 1). September was a very good month as reflected in the numbers. Overall increase in revenue compared to past years and golf course has now moved in the black, giving credit to very warm and dry weather for the past couple of months.
- 2). Aerification has been completed at the golf course –quite a job, but will significantly help make the grounds playable again next year.
- 3). All golf outings are completed and went very well.
- 4). So far for the month of October, seeing about the same performance as this time last year and after this month, expect activities to slow down significantly.
- 5). Over the fall/winter, staff will be getting trees marked for removal and locations designated for replacement.
- 6). Expect to finish T project soon.
- 7). Indoor practice range will be set up soon.
- 8). Website changes coming to promote new Ts and promote 2020 membership.
- 9). Winter season to focus on equipment repair.

### **VII. Pool Report**

- a. Londa Bennett was not present to provide report on Browns Pool.

### **VIII. New Business**

a. **‘Community Day at the Park’ Recap**— reported by Denise McKee. Bryan Williams started by expressing his appreciation for park staff for their hard work/efforts in putting together a successful event for the community. Denise McKee reported the following:

- 1). Approximately 225 participants between service projects and Community Fair vendors.
- 2). 180 service project participants, providing 450 hours of volunteer work.
- 3). 10 projects completed – 15 trees and 2500 tulips planted, Memorial Tree tags hung, several stump holes raked/backfilled/seeded, bridge painted, restrooms painted, litter/limbs cleaned out south/north of creek as well as trail system, stone flower box at park office flagpole, and a few individuals sent out to Sports Complex and Golf Course for work.
- 4). Bryan Williams did a wonderful job representing the park at the dedication ceremony in planting of tree in memory of the 2019 Memorial Day Tornado as well as Taylor Metz, President of the Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee in planting the tree. Good to see the kids putting the dirt around the tree– followed by Community Fair (20 groups/businesses represented) and fun activities in the afternoon – Face Painting, Museum Tours & pictures by the Conestoga Wagon, Storytime by the Future Lending Library Tree, Scavenger Hunt and Family Trees by the Daughters of American Revolution.
- 5). Raised \$165.00 for the Give a Tulip- Take a Tulip program.
- 6). Denise McKee thanked Donnie Meyer and his crew for their amazing work in getting all of the trees picked up from Blue Grass Farms, holes dug, trees planted, service project materials purchased and in place ready for the day as well as clean-up efforts.
- 7). In retrospect, for future events, likely best to focus solely on service projects and incorporate the Community Fair in with another event.
- 8). Donnie Meyer suggested that when we have another Community Day, best to hold in the spring versus fall as would have more work projects – such as preparing the pool for the summer season. Jennifer Roberts asked if there could have been more projects done with the turn-out. Donnie Meyer replied yes. Todd Miller added that if the park holds in the spring, he would have more projects available at the Sports Complex as well. Denise McKee commented that Rachel

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Christenson and the Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee is interested in having an Arbor Day Service Day and perhaps can bring these two projects together again in the spring—expect to be scheduled late April/early May.

**b. Concern for homeless persons loitering in the park** – raised by Bill Davisson. Bill Davisson informed that there has been a homeless man camping out in the large shelter at the front of the park for the past week and asked that as a park board how do we want to address. The following comments/discussions were made:

- 1). Bryan Williams commented that loitering has not been enforced.
- 2). Donnie Meyer stated that there is actually another location that the homeless have been camping out.
- 3). Bill Davisson expressed concerns that the current loitering ordinance is very vague and read out loud the ordinance that is in place. He also explained that despite weak verbiage, the police department does have some control via fine citation of \$150.00 with Town Judge discretion to raise up to \$500.00 as well as North 40 Entrance has curfew from dusk to dawn with separate penalties for violations attached.
- 4). Bill Davisson then suggested proposal of new ordinance to address/eliminate overnight parking and overnight camping, unless prior approval from park.
- 5). Jennifer Roberts acknowledged that the current ordinance is gray as written.
- 6). Laretta Gray stated that something needs to be done to address these concerns.
- 7). Bryan Williams agreed.
- 8). Laretta Gray asked if anyone has approached the homeless gentleman now in the park.
- 9). Donnie Meyer replied no and stated that a family from Fishers had just brought it to his attention and heard that there are people in the town that are providing him with work, food and drinks.
- 10). Jennifer Roberts inquired as to whether there was a local resource available.
- 11). Laretta Gray commented that compassion is a good thing, but also need to address the issue.
- 12). Bryan Williams asked if anyone from the police department has addressed the homeless gentleman or tried to get him to go to the Christian Center in Anderson.
- 13). Donnie Meyer replied that Marc Farrer, Chief of Police, has approached him and said he wanted to go to the east coast.
- 14). Steve Denny offered chipping in on costs to get him where he wants to go.
- 15). Bill Davisson added that Rob Spalding raises funds to help homeless get to places/family and it would be a great idea to help in this way.
- 16). Steve Denny reflected on his police work in Anderson and stated that word travels fast amongst the homeless and soon we may find us as another tent city ~places that are typically known to have criminals, drug users, used needles – not what we want for Pendleton or Falls Park. Steve Denny then stated that there are many resources for this gentleman.
- 17). Laretta Gray asked how best to approach this issue; asking if we need to get the local police department involved.
- 18). Steve Denny commented that the police department can fine him for trespass, remove him from the park and be advised that should he return, he will be placed in jail. Steve Denny added that most do not return when charged for trespassing.
- 19). Bryan Williams stated that he will contact Marc Farrer.
- 20). Bill Davisson stated that he will also reach out to Marc Farrer and Town Attorney to see if need to change town ordinance verbiage.
- 21). Laretta Gray agreed that the ordinance language needs to be strengthened.
- 22). Bill Davisson asked if overnight parking is an issue.
- 23). Todd Miller replied yes, at the Sports Complex.

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- 24). Donnie Meyer stressed the importance of investing in gate at the North 40 Entrance and have set rules in place/posted.
- 25). Steve Denny commented that the Park Board is here to help, but it is time to move on and get better parameters/controls in place.
- 26). Bill Davisson said he will bring matters up to the Town of Pendleton regarding ordinance improvements.

**VIII. Old Business**

- a. **Park Projects** – Donnie Meyer reported the following:
  - 1). Fredericks to have water tapped into next week and current Water Street restrooms should come down soon.
  - 2). Donnie Meyer proposes that park put in sidewalk that connects the Water Street crosswalk to the new restrooms which will cost \$5,239.00 (16 yards of concrete) with savings using park staff labor. Sidewalk will provide safe walk (6 feet wide) that will be wheel chair accessible. Joshua Ring stated that he likes the idea, but would like to see drawing first and asking how it will link in. Donnie Meyer replied that it will have a gradual curve and will be on the south side, closer to the playground and not the fence line~ approximately 15 feet away from the fence. Steve Denny stated that what Donnie Meyer showed him at Community Day, he believes it will be a good addition to the project. Joshua Ring stated again that he is confident it is a good idea, but prefers to see drawing prior to putting in place. Steve Denny asked if a Park Board vote was necessary. Donnie Meyer commented that he only needs approval to order/pay for the service. Bryan Williams stated that park staff does not need official Park Board vote, but has support. Donnie Meyer added that the sidewalk will be eight (8) feet off Steve Wills’ property and great way to tie into the new crosswalk.
- b. **Finance Committee** – no report made.
- c. **Log Cabin** – Reported by Donnie Meyer. Donnie Meyer reported that the logs have been removed from the old maintenance building and now exposed as well as damaged building has been completely taken down.
- d. **Friends of Falls Park** – Reported by Denise McKee. Denise McKee reported that the Friends of Falls Park has grown to about 60 members and will be having discussions at the November meeting as to how Heritage Fair proceeds will be spent, estimated at about \$5,000.00 net. Also, noting that some of these funds have been committed for Spring 2020 to the landscaping around the future Lending Library Tree. Further, Denise McKee advised that the group has recently applied for their 501c3 status and expect to hear word from the Internal Revenue Service in about a week or so.

**X. Director of Maintenance Report**

- a. Donnie Meyer reported the following:
  - 1). Browns Pool has been winterized and in two weeks the Sports Complex & Red Barn will be winterized, with the circle restrooms soon following.
  - 2). Steve Denny asked if there were plans for a dedication ceremony for the flag that will be on display at the front of the park. Donnie Meyer suggested that a ribbon cutting ceremony/ dedication ceremony be done when the restrooms are completed. Steve Denny asked if the new restrooms were to be heated. Donnie Meyer replied yes. Joshua Ring asked if the new restrooms were going to be locked at night. Donnie Meyer commented that he believed they will be open 24 – 7. Jennifer Roberts stated that she understood that they will be open year-round, but

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locked at night. Donnie Meyer added that the flagpole for the front of the park will be black onyx and currently await delivery.

3). Donnie Meyer informed that one of the park trees had fallen on residential property near the North 40 Entrance- 624 North Pendleton- and that staff will removing on 10/24/19.

Bryan Williams and Joshua Ring then commented that they agree that a gate is needed at the North 40 Entrance and that Aaron Burriss should gather quotes for gates - both at the North 40 Entrance and Sports Complex. Donnie Meyer stated that he will let Aaron know that the Park Board would like for him to move forward with getting quotes. Stephen Bill asked who will then lock these gates nightly. Donnie Meyer stated that he or Joy will make sure they are locked each night.

**XI. Director Report**

a. Aaron Burriss was not present to provide Director Report.

**XII. Approval of claims from September 2019**

The Register of Claims for September 2019. Motion by Steve Denny. Second motion Stephen Bill, approval by all. Members present did sign the September 2019 Register of Claims. Denise McKee will submit to the Town Clerk.

6:42 pm Meeting adjourned by President Bryan Williams.