

MINUTES
Goshen Parks and Recreation Commission
January 23, 2024 at 6:00PM
Goshen Community Building, 244 Clark Street

Call to Order: Adam Walker called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Roll Call: Adam Walker, Kyle McGurk, Danielle Edwards and Mike Nimmo were present. Caleb Lebow was absent.

Approval of Agenda: Mike Nimmo would like to add future meeting dates to the agenda Item B. under new business. Kyle let's move Item A. ARDOT Grant under old business to last Item in case Caleb is able to make it. Danielle Edwards motioned to approve agenda. Seconded by Kyle McGurk. All in favor. Yay (4) Opposed. (0). The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

November 28, 2023 Minutes. Kyle McGurk made a motion to approve the minutes as written Seconded by Mike Nimmo. All in favor yea (4) Opposed (0). The motion carried.

Appointment of Officers: Adam Walker, Mayor Stroud nominated myself as Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee, along with Danielle Edwards as secretary for the 2024 year. The City Council approved our appointments at the January 2024 Council meeting.

Reading of Ordinance 175: Mike Nimmo motioned to read the ordinance in name only. Seconded by Kyle McGurk. All in favor. Yay (4) Opposed. (0). The motion carried.

Reading of Ordinance 216 Amending 175: Kyle McGurk motion to read in name only. Seconded by Daniel Edwards. All in favor. Yay (4). Opposed (0). The motion carried.

Old Business:

- A. Matching Grant:** Adam Walker presented. There is no update on the award of the matching grant.

- B. HUD Update:** Adam Walker presented. Mid-December, Ken was able to submit the environmental assessment for public comment. It did only require 15 days for public review, Ken did Opp for 30 days. A lot of that was just due to the timing of when we submitted it. So final comments for that closed about four days ago. Mary: Ken was told today that US Fish and Wild Life needed to weigh in. He got on the phone, got US Fish and Wild Life to sign off, and do the final review. He's working on the Corps of Engineers. He's had all kinds of new questions that were never on the original deal, so it means he's been prowling through maps and all kinds of stuff. Adam: Once the agency submit their comment and we respond, then we issue our request for public funding. Then there's a public notice. Ken initially was hopeful that by March or April would be able to submit for funding. I may see if he and Caleb can connect. If Caleb still has

maybe one of the ears of the Corps from our biking and the road Greenway discussions, maybe they could lend us a hand and help us out. The summation of it was a lot of what Ken had put forth regarding assessment showed that there is no significant impact from the findings. So, it should be once we get all parties to OK it. Hopefully from there smoother sailing.

- C. Gravel Bike Initiative:** Kyle McGurk presented. The step that we're in right now is kind of the route development. Brandon Pack is working with the Ozark Foundation. He's assisting us with redevelopment and then he's also asked us to assist with a little bit of route development. So, I'm helping him with that as well. So that's kind of stage of that, and he does want to have a meeting with us shortly because there's some exciting news that he'll share with us about how we can benefit. The Highlands Gravel classic event, the balls really in our court we need to set up a meeting with Tree, Bruce, Mayor and probably Lacie as soon as we possibly can. Adam: Tonight, I will begin getting everyone together. Mayor: I'll send you, my schedule. Danielle: The sooner the better, especially if we're asking the city for volunteers. I got to go out and talk to all these people and I can't go out and talk to them unless I know what I'm asking for. Kyle: Lacie has individuals and organizations approached her about getting involved as well. So, I think we need to probably just sit down as a group and figure out what that is that we're going to do and then start thinking the game plan. Cheryl Nimmo: Is Bruce's company providing anything? Kyle: I imagine they're providing most event organization. I think what we were just being asked to do is help out with like an event or a dinner, the space and the meal. To actually help with traffic, I think it's really the only thing we're actually asking the city to help with. We're not organizing the event by any means. The event is the 27th of April. Mike: Is there going to be enough time for Bruce as a company owner, as a promoter of these events to actually get out there and promote this and get, people involved from a participant standpoint? It's signed up to the left stuff is that going to be enough time? Kyle: They've already opened registration and have been marketing it. They're going to present us with their plan for how the start finish is going to work in the field here and what they've asked us to help with, and there's not a solid plan in place yet for us to like help with the pre-event or post event depending on how they want to do it, like a meal or a community event. So, as the registrants are signing up right now, it just says before and after TBD, which is common for events. Cheryl: I'm still confused about what Bruce has company is providing other than just the route and the event stuff and the registration and bringing people to our city. He is doing this for profit. It is not a nonprofit organization. I'm concerned that the city is putting forth most of the expense. Adam: Those are good questions. What it does is what you just said, Cheryl, is that it's going to provide U.S. economic exposure. We're going to have 500 plus contestants and 1000 people here viewing our city and being part of our community. And the nice thing is that this will be the third year with it. And I think the potential here is that this becomes an annual event that may not meet the growth of the Joel Martin stage race, but. does present that that benefit to us and that we have people stopping in at ponchos and, you know, hitting up Dollar General for their last-minute snack needs. And as our commerce areas grow in the community, hopefully over

time, this will continue to provide that benefit to us. We did spitball the idea of ways to come across with donors and sponsors from our standpoint of it. On how we can sort of minimize the impact of the city as far as our financial costs and I think that will be the next step. We meet with Bruce and Tree. Mayor: I think the only significant financial costs would maybe be the additional police officer that would be on duty. And possibly additional porta potties. Adam: I think this next meeting with Bruce and Tree will be very beneficial.

D. ARDOT Grant: Adam Walker presented for Caleb LeBow. Caleb's update, Mayor, do we have an update on the signing of the Crafton & Tull Amendment No. 2? Mayor: I haven't seen anything. Adam: I'll see if Caleb can follow on that. Caleb did say that to his knowledge, Crafton & Tull has not addressed any of the Trail Design, cross-slope comments that were provided by ARDOT. So, they are reviewing our 90% submission. Lacie just recently sent the 4th Quarter Report to them. The 1st of January. For him, confirming warranty deeds sent from City Hall to Ashley Smith with ARDOT for the parcels associated with this project. Have you been privy to that? This may be some Lacie questions. Mayor: I know Lacey, she pulled all that stuff and I know was compiling it to send in. Caleb has, there is a requested quote for Cultural Resource Survey from Switchgrass Consulting. This was requested by ARDOT and suggested by Crafton & Tull. So, I think we are awaiting that quote from the surveyors. Caleb has truly taken this project on as a point between Parks & Rec to the City and Parks & Rec to Crafton & Tull. Kyle: Are you aware of the Cultural Resource Survey? Mayor: I don't have any idea of that. I think the last email I looked at was when ARDOT had some questions and recommendations of things on all the different things. Ken had replied to that as well and then I think that Ken had replied to some of that on some of their questions. And then I know Caleb, replied one more time and then that's the last I saw of that email. Mary: We've had the Arkansas Archaeological Survey and Ken was just speaking today about what we need to call the Tribes for review because there's really no documentation of a Tribal thing on that. The bridge manufacturers that we did receive quotes from did confirm that they're all steel, meeting all of the Buy America requirements, and they're looking at a nine-month lead time for fabrication of those bridges. Mary: provided an update on the wildlife platforms. John Beneke, myself and Ken walked the site, and what we came up with was a puzzle. He's going to involve Kristen Barlow, she's the head of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, watching the wildlife program. She's going to work in coming up here and work with him. The site, you know, we were using the Crafton Tull map as we know it, you know, where it's going up. And once you hit the top of the hill, if you're looking on the left, the spring drainage, there's an area there where it drops four or five feet, we've got trees. We could develop some stuff over there. And John was suggesting about a 20-foot-long blind that would be wheelchair accessible. I will send all the stuff that Kristen sent to you if you want to

share it with others, showing how we adapt for wheelchair accessibility. Our major audiences to use this blind will largely be families, young children, and wheelchair accessibility. It would be a site where you would – I've done these at schools before. It's a wall of wood with a short shelf coming over it, that's what John and I discussed, with some peep holes, at different levels. And then you would have maybe a little shelf kind of thing in some places where someone can slide up a wheelchair. We don't have a design on that. And partnering with that, the Arbor Board met and wanted to try to promote developing along the concrete pad art projects. And I met with – this was an idea of Kim. Kim and Brad Watson, anyway, we did a lot of research on what we could draw and paint, on that board. When kids come up, you want a destination for your trail. We need a place where we can put enough picnic tables, preferably wooden and cheap, for a class of 20 to 30. Until you have that, you can't really invite any school kids there. John will be working with me to come up for our vision for the design.

New Business

- A. Discussion of New Survey:** Adam Walker presented. I've been tinkering with through Microsoft Forms, but I will share it with you guys. I really modeled it after the Fayetteville survey that they did for the new park, and I'm trying to really build in radial buttons that will expand the survey. As somebody answers a question, it will ask for clarification and offer a text box. But the whole goal for this survey that I would like us to really consider, really seek your input on is how we can create the survey to guide public input and future build needs for Mill Branch, for the community park, and then for just general recreation needs for Goshen itself. I feel that those three components will kind of give us our foundation to kind of work towards getting our master plan together, getting the master plan for Mill Branch together for the community center, then help guide us through the Regional Planning Commission on the walk bike trail, and kind of really just help bring all of that back together. The last survey that we did was the initial one in 2020 that Chuck Jacobus helped kind of create, and they've kind of got a lot of this going. So, we're definitely in need of updates for that, for public input. I appreciate you all's input on it.
- B. Change of Meeting Days:** Mike Nimmo presented. Mike is still working full time until June 30, 2024. He asked if the Commission could change from Tuesdays to Mondays. After discussion Commissioners agreed to change from Tuesdays to Mondays for the months of March through June. Keeping February's meeting on Tuesday.

Public Input:

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Kyle McGurk at 7:14PM. Seconded by Danielle Edwards. All in favor. Yay (4) Opposed. (0) The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:14PM.

Chairman Adam Walker