

## Minutes Manchester Recreation Commission

Thursday, January 11, 2018

The Manchester Recreation Commission met on Thursday, January 11, 2018 at the Recreation Complex at 1:00PM. Members present were Chairman Prater Powell, Brent Parsley, Leslie Trussler, Leslie Brasfield, Alderman Lana Sain, Stan Rogers, Assistant Director AJ Fox and Director Bonnie Gamble.

The November minutes were presented and read. Brent Parsley made a motion that the minutes get approved as read and seconded by Leslie Trussler. Stan Rogers asked if the Minutes reflected Prater Powell as elected as chairman? They did not as Prater Powell was elected in October as Chairman.

Director Gamble presented the programs schedule. Dusty Elam Basketball will finish February 3. The Recreation Department will be taking seniors to see Jersey Boys at TPAC on Sunday, January 14, 2018. Amazing Family Night sponsored by Fastpace Urgent Care is scheduled for January 19, 2018 along with a Lock in. We will be starting a Walk to the Final Four starting January 22 contest. Ball sign ups start January 27 with opening day on April 7.

A maintenance report was provided that indicated the following large projects done or in the process of completion. These were; repairs to the Babe Ruth Pressbox, building a retention pond for the Soccer Complex as part of the LPRF grant, and repairing the air leak in the main return line of the outdoor pool.

Discussion took place concerning a Local Parks and Recreation Fund grant application for 2018. Director Gamble stated she had met with the Board of Mayor and Alderman of the desire of the Commission to submit an application. The project would be the renovation of the Fred Deadman Playground and lights on the soccer fields. She reported that the Board of Mayor and Alderman also want Director Gamble to provide options to include a restroom.

Under new business, the Commission considered the bids provided for the outdoor theater package. Only Open Air provided as sealed bid. Epic Productions emailed theirs, even after Director Gamble emailed them the bid instructions. The Open Air than was the only bid that could be accepted. It was \$13,999.00 Epic Outdoor Productions emailed bid was \$13,999.15. Brent Parsley made a motion to approve the bid from Open Air and Leslie Brasfield seconded. Chair Prater Powell called for the vote and it passed unanimously.

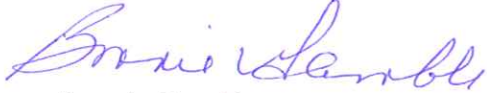
Director Gamble then discussed the donation of land by Buster Bush across from the Soccer park on Waite Street. It is approximately 12 acres. The Manchester Rotary Club is interested in funding a Dog Park. Discussion took place about a dog park on this property to be maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department. Chairman Powell wanted more specifics about liability and how dog park operate. Brent Parsley wanted more specifics of size. It was agreed by the Commission to have the Recreation Department prepare a report on rules and regulations to dog parks for the next meeting.

Brent Parsley offered a discussion over a possible memorial to Aaron Miller who recently passed away. Aaron Miller was a long time commission of Little League Baseball in Manchester

and worked as an umpire. He also served two terms as a commissioner on the Recreation Commission. Director Gamble suggested naming one of the youth baseball fields in honor of Aaron Miller. The suggestion was made by Prater Powell that it be the American League field as that is the most prominent as you enter the ball park. Motion was made by Brent Parsley to name the American League field the Aaron Miller Memorial Field, seconded by Stan Rogers. Vote passed unanimously.

The Recreation Commission will next meet on Thursday, February 8 at 1:00PM.

Respectively Submitted



Bonnie Gamble