

COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

January 20, 2012

Present: Chad Vande Lune, Jacki Craver, Sher Fulker, Arvin Van Zante, Stephen Fyfe, Rich Schulte, Jo Ella Gerber, Jill Parson-Payne & Chad Klein

Staff: Chandler Nunnikhoven, Jenny Hesselstine & Brenda Ross

Sher made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 16th meeting. This was seconded by Arvin.

Blue Zones

Jenny encouraged the board member to vote for Pella in the Blue Zones Project. Pella's overall numbers are increasing, but the ranking is dropping, as Pella was recently ranked 11 has now dropped to 17th. She asked them to promote it with family and friends. The finalists will be announced on February 10th.

Snow Kickball Tournament

A one day tournament will be held on February 25th at Caldwell Park. Teams will consist of 9-12 players with 3 being females. Prizes donated by Pizza Ranch and Smokey Row will be awarded. A tournament for teens will be offered on a Saturday in March.

Community Workouts & Internships

Two students from Central College, Jennifer Baxa and Bret Bell, were hired as interns. They will be spear heading the Community Workouts. Bret will also be helping at the pool.

PTV 12

One bid was received from DSI. The contact is with the city attorney and hopefully will be signed within the next week. Rich mentioned televising and broadcasting the school board meetings.

Renting for Profit/Fundraising

Currently we do not rent facilities to for profit groups. At the Community Center, our long-term lease holders are allowed to sub-lease out to any organization. Staff has checked with other communities and they allowed for profit groups but the get a share of the profits. Chad VL said that a separate fee should be set for profit groups. The Indoor Pool had a request to rent the pool as a fundraiser for the Swim Team (a 5019(c) 3 organization). All board members were in agreement that the Swim Team should be allowed to rent the pool at the normal rate for their fundraiser. Staff will work to develop a draft new policy for rentals department-wide and will have that ready for the February board meeting.

Community Garden

Donations have been pledged that will cover the expenses for the water line and fencing. Staff is hoping that Council will set a fee amount of \$25 at the February 7th council meeting.

Big Rock Park Wood

The board gave their support to clean up dead trees in the park. As there may be some value to the wood for the right party, the board is in support of discussing the possibility of someone externally performing the clean-up. Staff will explore this with local businesses and organizations and report back at the next board meeting.

West Mark Park Playground

Jenny provided all members with a memorandum on the playground and asked them to read through it and be ready to discuss it at the meeting. Below is the memorandum.

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Pella Community Services Board
Mike Nardini, City Administrator

FROM: Jenny Hesseltine, Administrative Services Director

DATE: January 20, 2012

SUBJECT: West Market Park Playground

It is my understanding that at the last meeting of the Pella Community Services Board (CSB) on December 16, 2011, a discussion took place regarding the condition of the playground in West Market Park. While I was unable to attend that meeting due to illness, it is my understanding that some concern was expressed regarding the condition and safety of the playground. My goal in writing this memo is to provide some follow-up information that may be helpful to the board in moving forward with decisions regarding the playground.

At the July 15, 2011 board meeting, the topic of the playground was brought up by staff and the board provided direction at that time for staff to further research the potential for available funding established at the time the playground was built in 1992. My research has revealed that an endowment was established using \$10,000 that was raised through fundraising efforts in 1991 and 1992. That endowment now totals over \$34,000. In addition to that funding, the Community Services department receives an annual allocation from that fund which is then used for minor repairs. This year, we will receive four percent of that total, bringing our internal trust fund total for West Market Park to \$3,550. I am currently working with the Pella Community Foundation to understand the specifics of requesting the use of the endowment funds. The original letter establishing the fund and setting forth general guidelines is attached to this memo for your reference.

Since the discussion that took place on December 16, the parks crew has spent a significant amount of time at the playground and as a result, the following work has been completed:

- Replaced tire ramps and tire horse with new tires
 - Tires came free from Theisen's
- Replaced damaged/worn chains on climbing structures
- Added a new wall where an existing drop bar was located because the fall zone was too great
- Removed and replaced damaged/severe splintered decking and hand rails
- Replaced new "strap in" chains in the infant swing area (west swings)
- Raised east swings a couple of inches to keep children from kicking out mulch
- Added conduit into bracing beams where chains were hollowing out the wood
- Added guards (black tile) over two slides to lessen the threat of splinters
- Re-nailed/screwed down all loose nails and screws throughout the playground
- Installed inner tube rubber over posts where the tops of the posts were hollow or had severe splintering
- Re-designed the tire swing for future wear and tear
- Re-installed the balance beam, adding a new support chain to keep the beam off the ground

In addition to this work, new rubber mats will be installed under slides in the springtime.

Small repairs like these are made on a regular basis to keep the playground in good working order; however, staff recognizes the importance of having a long-term plan for the playground. The reality is that the playground will see its 20th year come to a close in May of 2012, and there will come a point in time that routine annual repairs are not enough to keep

up with its age. Therefore, staff has proposed the following for the FY 12/13 budget:

- Complete replacement of the mulch in the playground area in the fall of 2012
- Formulation of a focus group, including CSB members, thereafter to determine the long-term needs of the playground.
 - Once decisions are made regarding this step, we anticipate making a request to the Pella Community Foundation to tap into the resources available through the endowment.

Staff would like to entertain thoughts and questions from members of the CSB at the February meeting. Please feel free to contact staff between now and then to address any questions or concerns.

Next meeting will be Friday, February 17 at noon at the Police Training Room. Chad K made motion to adjourn, seconded by Rich. Meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Ross

January 20, 2012