

SAINT CHARLES PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING HELD
May 3, 2023

The meeting was **Called to Order** by President Ryan at 6:00pm in the American Legion Room in Memorial Hall. **Roll Call** noted the following present for the meeting:

Board Denise Childress, Kathy Mudrovic, Mike Ryan, Brad Harmon, Tuss Peluchette (Via Zoom) and Council Liaison Denise Mitchell were present. Mike Hannegan and Merle Schneider were absent.

Staff Maralee Britton – Director, Chris Atkinson- Assistant Director, Mike Wilkins – Chief Park Ranger, Don Borgmeyer – Enterprise Superintendent, Peter VanLinn – Parks Superintendent, Missy Hollander – Aquatic Coordinator

Other

Motion by Childress to allow Tuss Peluchette to participate remotely in conjunction with City Ordinance 115.405 Remote Participation; Seconded by Mudrovic. Roll Call Vote.

Roll Call: Denise Childress – Yes, Mike Hannegan - Absent, Brad Harmon – Yes, Kathy Mudrovic - Yes, Mike Ryan - Yes, Merle Schneider – Absent.

Tuss Peluchette- Yes.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Verbal Petitions/Public Comments and Response:**

5. **Staff Reports/Presentations:** None

6. **Items for Discussion and/or Action-**

A. Change Order to Purchase Order with STLOUISLEDS to provide additional LED lighting for the Boone’s Lick Courts. Adding \$6,828.00 for a new total Purchase Order amount not to exceed \$18,755.92*

Atkinson presented the change order. Childress made a motion to approve the change order; seconded by Peluchette.

Roll Call: Denise Childress – Yes, Mike Hannegan - Absent, Brad Harmon – Yes, Kathy Mudrovic - Yes, Tuss Peluchette – Yes, Mike Ryan - Yes, Merle Schneider – Absent.
Motion passed.

B. Contract with Wyndham Newport Hotel to provide overnight lodging, breakfast and baggage handling during “Classic New England in Fall” Trip on September 18 & 19, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$16,302.08*

Atkinson presented the contract. Mudrovic made a motion to approve the contract; seconded by Childress.

Roll Call: Denise Childress – Yes, Mike Hannegan - Absent, Brad Harmon – Yes, Kathy Mudrovic - Yes, Tuss Peluchette – Yes, Mike Ryan - Yes, Merle Schneider – Absent.
Motion passed.

C. Discussion and Consideration of Closing McNair Aquatic Facility*

Britton presented the information to the Board.

Since the Aquatic Facility Audit was completed in 2014 the assessment from the consultant was that the McNair Aquatic Facility would have 7 to 10 years of life before closure would be necessary.

During discussions at the Park Board and with Joint Meetings with the City Council in 2015 and 2016 the recommendation for the Proposition P (Sales Tax) was to renovate/replace the Blanchette and Wapelhorst Aquatic Facilities and to operate the McNair Aquatic Facility until it is no longer financially feasible to operate without major repairs/expenses.

Since that time the structural and mechanical issues at the McNair Aquatic Facility have continued to deteriorate as expected. This included the removal of the slide tower and slide in 2021 due to its condition and cost to replace. The most recent issue is the issue of the pool leaking water. Several attempts have been made to identify the location of the leak(s) with staff and private consultants with no success or certainty.

The information presented also included the attendance numbers and financial statements for each aquatic facility for the last 9 years.

Childress stated that she did not support staff's recommendation of permanently closing the McNair Aquatic Facility. Childress stated the purpose of this city board is to provide amenities to all members of society, including the underserved and underprivileged. This pool serves a unique population of citizens, albeit smaller than at Wapelhorst and Blanchette. Even though the Parks Department has abandoned most improvements or investments into the facility pursuant to discussions when Prop P was passed, average attendance numbers have remained consistent over the last ten years, except for years where we have closed the facilities. That means this population so greatly enjoys, wants,

or needs the facility that its disrepair does not deter their attendance. That should speak loudly of the need for this park. Childress pointed out that while the McNair Aquatic Facility operates at a loss, Blanchette operates at a higher loss. She would like to see funds spent to make the needed repairs to reopen the McNair Aquatic facility and continue to serve this population of citizens.

Peluchette, Harmon, Mudrovic and Ryan all stated that the closure of the McNair Aquatic Facility has been discussed several times since 2014. With the deteriorating condition of the facility they stated that now was the time for the permanent closure so that the Department could replace the aquatic facility with another amenity for the public.

Childress made a motion for permanent closure of the McNair Aquatic Facility and for staff to bring back at a future meeting demolition options; seconded by Peluchette.

Roll Call: Denise Childress – No, Mike Hannegan - Absent, Brad Harmon – Yes, Kathy Mudrovic - Yes, Tuss Peluchette – Yes, Mike Ryan - Yes, Merle Schneider – Absent.
Motion passed.

7. Meeting Minutes:

- A. Parks & Recreation Board Meeting Minutes March 15, 2023*
- B. Executive Committee Meeting Minutes March 27, 2023*
- C. Executive Committee Closed Session Minutes March 27, 2023**
- D. Parks & Recreation Work Session Meeting Minutes April 5, 2023*

Childress made a motion to approve the meeting minutes A-D; seconded by Mudrovic.

Roll Call: Denise Childress – Yes, Mike Hannegan - Absent, Brad Harmon – Yes, Kathy Mudrovic - Yes, Tuss Peluchette – Yes, Mike Ryan - Yes, Merle Schneider – Absent.
Motion passed.

8. Consent Agenda (Items to be received):

The Consent Agenda was then addressed, which included the following:

- A. Calendar
- B. Financial Statement
- C. Accounts Receivable Report
- D. Project Report
- E. Financial Transactions from \$7,500 to \$10,000
- F. Oak Grove Cemetery Report

Mudrovic made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Seconded by Childress.

Roll Call: Denise Childress – Yes, Mike Hannegan - Absent, Brad Harmon – Yes, Kathy Mudrovic - Yes, Tuss Peluchette – Yes, Mike Ryan - Yes, Merle Schneider – Absent.
Motion passed.

9. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:** None

10. **Presidents Announcements and Reminders:**

Ryan discussed Missouri Senate Bill 222 currently being discussed at the capital in Jefferson City. This bill would remove the requirement (Replace the word “shall” with “may”) for cities to appoint Members to the Administrative Parks and Recreation Boards. This could potentially impact the St. Charles Parks & Recreation Board. Britton stated that the MPRA is aware of the piece of legislation and are opposing it. Staff will keep the Board updated on the legislation as needed.

11. **Directors Report:**

- A. Thank You’s and Comments (As Available)
- B. Staffing Report
- C. 1st Quarterly Report 2023
- D. Bangert Island Update
- E. General Department Update

Britton informed the Board that Tom Smith had officially resigned from the Board. He has served the City of St. Charles on the Parks & Recreation Board for 21 years.

Interviews are currently taking place for the Marketing & Communications position.

At Board Member Childress’s request Britton provided an update to the Board on Bangert Island. The City of St. Charles recently took over operation and maintenance of the Island from the St. Charles County Parks & Recreation Department. The protected island is a component of the Riverpointe development that the City and developers are currently working on. The City of St. Charles Parks & Recreation Department/Board has not been asked to be involved in operating the property.

12. **Board Member Announcements and Reminders:** None

13. **Council Liaison Announcements and Reminders:**

Mitchell thanked staff for removing the dead tree in Wapelhorst Park.

14. **Park Board Liaisons Comments**

A. Foundation Report: Will meet next week May 10, 2023.


B. Legislative Report: None.

As there was no further business to discuss Childress moved for **Adjournment** at 7:41 pm;
Seconded by Mudrovic.

Roll Call: Denise Childress – Yes, Mike Hannegan - Absent, Brad Harmon – Yes, Kathy
Mudrovic - Yes, Tuss Peluchette – Yes, Mike Ryan - Yes, Merle Schneider – Absent.
Motion passed.

Meeting: May 3, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,



Mike Ryan - President



Denise Childress - Secretary