

St. Louis Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 15th, 2018

The regular meeting of the St. Louis Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order by City Manager Kurt Giles at 4:17 p.m. With chairperson Kevin Palmer's retirement from the commission, the first order of business was to elect a new chair and vice-chair. Nominated for the positions of chair and vice-chair were Melissa Allen and Amanda Kelly, respectively. A motion to accept this slate was made by Steve Larsen, seconded by Sally Church. Motion carried.

In the absence of Chair Melissa Allen, Vice Chair Amanda Kelly presided over the meeting.

Roll Call

Present: Steve Larsen, Amanda Kelly, Mary Reed, Sally Church

Absent: Melissa Allen, Dorothy Trgina

Vacancy

Others Present: Kurt Giles, City Manager, Mark Abbott, DPW Director, Keith Risdon, Utilities Director, Kathy Larsen, resident, Ralph Echtenaw, Editor, St. Louis Sentinel online newspaper

Approval of December 11, 2017 Minutes

Motion by Larsen and supported by Church to accept the December 11, 2017 minutes and place them on file, with the addition of Chris White, resident, in the audience at that meeting. Motion carried.

No changes to the agenda

Financial Reports for the Parks and Pool

Motion by Larsen, and supported by Reed, to receive and place on file the financial report ending 12/31/17. Motion carried.

Business

At 4:26 p.m. Kelly opened a Public Meeting for input on the draft Parks & Recreation Commission's 5-Year Plan. There were no public comments. The Public Meeting was closed by Kelly at 4:30 p.m.

It was noted – and Giles will see that it is republished correctly – that the City Council meeting at which the new plan will be presented (with recommendation from the Parks & Rec Commission for approval) had a discrepancy in the date. The correct day and date is Tuesday, January 23rd.

Larsen mentioned that he had not seen the final draft of the 5-year plan. Giles stated that it is on the City's website, but did give Larsen a paper copy. The Commission went over changes that had been made during the December meeting. With no further discussion, Larsen made the motion, supported by Reed, to adopt and forward to City Council, the 2018-22 Parks & Recreation 5-Year Plan. Motion carried. Commission members will receive a paper copy of the Plan.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Mary Reed

Acting Secretary

St. Louis Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 12, 2018

The regular meeting of the St. Louis Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Mellissa Allen at 4:15 p.m. on Monday, March 12, 2018.

Roll Call

Present: Amanda Kelly, Sally Church, Melissa Allen, Ron Salladay, Mary Reed

Absent: Dorothy Trgina and Steve Larsen

Others Present: City Manager Kurt Giles, Mark Abbott, DPW Director, Keith Risdon,
Utilities Director, Lizette Betancourt, Pool Supervisor

Chair Allen had those present introduce themselves to new member Salladay, and Salladay briefly told of his background and interest in serving on the Parks Commission.

Approval of January 15, 2018 Minutes

Motion made by Church, seconded by Kelly, to accept the January 15, 2018 minutes and to place them on file. Motion carried.

No changes to the Agenda

Financial Report

Allen stated that the finances seem to be in good order at this point in the fiscal year. Salladay asked about the use of pool "paint," with Giles explaining the use of marcasite, which is a trowel-on finish, which seems to be the finish of choice for today's public pools. Its use in the City Pool is a spot repair on the original finish. With no further comments or questions, Kelly made the motion to place on file the report, Salladay seconded, and the motion carried.

Business

a. Lincoln Park Recap and Future Plan Discussion

Discussion ensued about the basketball court at Lincoln Park: the size of the court (30' x 50' was suggested), how much it's used currently, what would be needed in the way of preparation and materials to replace/resurface the court. Both Abbott and Risdon are working on gathering information and pricing (\$16,565 was an estimate given by Abbott, not including labor, wages and equipment rental, suggesting a final estimate at just under \$20,000) for the Commission.

Play structures at Leppien Park are well-used but are getting older and showing wear, and safety is always a consideration

Abbott's research to-date suggests about \$25,000 will be needed for new, ADA-approved play equipment. Abbott strongly suggests the continued use of rubber mulch for Leppien and all further replacement of materials (as opposed to gravel or wood mulch) under play structures. There was discussion of the relatively steep incline at Penny Park and what sorts of materials would work best at that site.

\$84,000 is the proposed amount needed for Parks for the City for the next fiscal year, stated Abbott. Given that funding – or a lack of funding - continues to be a consideration each year at budget time, a prioritization of any proposed spending for upgrades to parks was given in this order: Leppien, Penny, Lincoln and Lions.

a. Pool Update

Betancourt gave a detailed account of Summer 2017 City Pool's hours, fees, attendance, and staffing. Betancourt stated that she's "learning as she goes," but the Commission praised her for her dedication, attention to details, involvement with the business community, her outreach and commitment. The pool has been doing well with her management and the Commission looks forward to Betancourt's continued involvement for the coming summer pool program.

At 5:53 p.m. Allen was excused for a business appointment, and Vice Chair Kelly continues the meeting, with general discussion about the pool continuing. With no further business, the Kelly declared the meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Reed,
Acting Secretary

St. Louis Parks and Recreation Meeting
May 14, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Saint Louis Parks & Recreation Commission was called to Order by Kurt Giles, City Manager at 4:22 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Sally Church; Steve Larsen; Dorothy Trgina; and Mary Reed.

Members Absent:Melissa Allen; Ron Salladay and Amanda Kelly.

Others Present: Kurt Giles, City Manager; Gary Smith, Roger Collison, Resident.

MINUTES: Motion by Mary Reed, Seconded by Sally Church to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion Carried. Steve Larsen abstained by voting as he was not present at the March, 2018 Meeting.

CHANGES TO AGENDA:

Signs in the Park

Fishing Derby

FINANCIAL REPORT: The Financial Report is placed on file as prepared and presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pool Update: The Pool is scheduled to open on Saturday, June 9, 2018. There is a new pump and the pool is scheduled to be filled with water on the Thursday prior to the opening day.

Flower Update: Mary Reed reported that the Garden Club will be planting the beds on South Main Street on Saturday, May 26, 2018. Also, the City has purchased a Gator and has hired 2 part time men to water the plants 7 days a week.

Parks Update: Leppien Park, slide; Penny Park, Slide; and a _ Basketball Court at Lincoln

Park. Melissa Allen arrived at 4:40 P.M. and took over the Meeting.

Kurt Giles, City Manager passed around drawings for new equipment for Leppien Park and Penny Park. Follow-up to be done by Phil Hansen and Kurt Giles.

Keith Risdon arrived at 4:58 P.M.

Gary Smith spoke regarding the Free Fishing Derby, scheduled for Saturday, June 9th, 2018.

Roger Collison inquired about status of Basketball Court at Lincoln Park.

Steve Larsen inquired about Mileage for Park Improvements.

Steve Larsen inquired as to how many flower pots are left to be purchased.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the Meeting was Adjourned at 5:30 P.M. The next Meeting will be Monday, June 11, 2018 at 4:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Trgina, Secretary, Saint Louis Parks & Recreation Commission

SAINT LOUIS PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 9, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the St. Louis Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order by Melissa Allen, Chairman at 4:16 p.m.

Members Present: Melissa Allen, Steve Larsen, Ron Salladay, Dorothy Trgina, Mary
Reed, Amanda Kelly

Members Absen: Sally Church

Others Present: Kurt Giles – City Manager, Ralph Echtenaw – City Resident

Minutes: Motion by Steve Larsen, Seconded by Amanda Kelly to approve the Minutes of the
May 14, 2018 meeting as prepared. Discussion. Motion carried.

Financial Report: The Financial Report will be placed on file as presented.

New Business: Parks upgrade. New equipment will be placed in Leppien Park. A grant in the
amount of \$25,000.00 was awarded from the Gratiot County Community
Foundation.

Pool restroom update. A grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 is being looked into for
upgrades at the Pool House. DeShano Construction has interest in contributing
to upgrade the look of the Pool House building to match Pine River Apartment
Building.

Discussion of getting Zip Codes of the people using the pool to determine where,
within Gratiot County they are coming from to use the pool. Kurt mentioned
that this is the only outdoor swimming pool in Gratiot County.

Kurt Giles shared that he has had a discussion with Gary Smith regarding some of
the play equipment at Leppien Park, needing some update.

The Lincoln Park Basketball area is looking good.

Steve Larsen inquired if the Church of God Campground visitors are using the pool.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was Adjourned 5:00
p.m. The next meeting will be Monday, August 13, 2018 at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Trgina, Secretary

No meeting was held in August

St. Louis Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, September 10, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the St. Louis Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order by Melissa Allen, Chairperson at 4:15 p.m.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Melissa Allen, Steve Larsen, Sally Church, Ron Salladay, Dorothy Trgina,
Mary Reed, Amanda Kelly

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Mark Abbott – DPW Supervisor, Kurt Giles – City Manager, Keith Risdon – Utilities Director, Kathy Larsen – Resident, Jerry Church – Council Member.

Changes to the Agenda:

Motion by Mary Reed, seconded by Sally Church to add an Agenda item entitled Public Comment. Discussion. Motion Carried.

Minutes: In the Minutes for the July 9, 2018 meeting, under New Business, the wording is changed to read: “A Grant to assist with playground equipment with total cost of \$25,000.00” was awarded from the Gratiot Community Foundation.

In the next to the last paragraph, the word Good is changed to “God”.

Motion by Steve Larsen, seconded by Amanda Kelly to accept the Minutes as corrected. Discussion. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Placed on file as prepared and presented.

New Business:

Leppien Park – Kurt Giles told the members of the Commission that Jerry Graczyk of MML inspected the playground equipment and made suggestions. A quote for playground equipment was presented and accepted. Motion by Sally Church and seconded by Steve Larsen approving the purchase of the playground equipment for Leppien Park. Discussion. Motion Carried.

Lincoln Park – Kurt Giles mentioned that the neighborhood residents are happy with Lincoln Park. They also would like a Basketball Court.

Pool Update – A grant application has been presented to the Gratiot County Community Foundation for funds to improve the pool bath house and surrounding area.

Motion by Steve Larsen, seconded by Sally Church to approve the grant application for the pool house project. Discussion. Motion carried.

Tennis Courts – Melissa Allen brought up the amount of use the Tennis Court gets. Discussion.

Flower Pots – Steve Larsen mentioned having heard several positive comments on the flowers and the pots.

Public Comment:

Jerry Church brought up that a large tree in Clapp Park is splitting and needs attention.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m. The next meeting will be Monday, October 9, 2018 at 4:15 p.m.

Dorothy Trgina, Recording Secretary

No meeting was held in October.

St. Louis Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 12, 2018

The regular meeting of the St. Louis Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order by Melissa Allen, Chairperson, at 4:15 p.m.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Melissa Allen, Sally Church, Steven Larsen, Ron Salladay, Dorothy Trgina,
Mary Reed, Amanda Kelly

Members Absent: None

Other Present: Kurt Giles – City Manager, Keith Risdon – Utilities Director, Mark Abbott – DPW Superintendent, Kathy Larsen – Resident

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Steve Larsen, seconded by Amanda Kelly to add item 7 to the agenda, entitled Public Comment. Discussion. Motion carried. Item 8 will be Adjournment.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Steven Larsen, seconded by Amanda Kelly to approve the minutes with the following changes: Item E, Melissa intended Tennis Courts be used as Basketball Court. Discussion. Motion carried.

Financial Report

The Financial Report placed on file as prepared and presented.

New Business

Pool Report – A pool report, prepared by Lizette Bentacourt, Pool Director was attached to the meeting packet. All in attendance were very pleased with the report. Utilities Director, Keith Risdon shared information regarding the pool activities this past season.

County Parks Update – Kurt Giles, City Manager, reported on a meeting he attended with Stake holders, led by Alma Mayor, Greg Mapes, who is Chairman of the County Parks. Next meeting of this committee is scheduled for November 14, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. at the Alma Library. Ron Salladay indicated that he would be able to attend. There was also discussion regarding a proposed New County Park Plan.

Leppien Park – Playground Equipment was discussed. Mark Abbott reported that the new equipment will arrive on November 13, 2018 and be installed on November 14, 2018. This project is under budget.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 10, 2018 at 4:15 p.m.

Dorothy Trgina, Recording Secretary

No meeting was held in December.