

**Clearwater Recreation Commission
Minutes of Tuesday, July 11, 2023
Held at Clearwater Public Library**

Members Present: Amanda Germann, Jamie Tjaden, Wayne Berntsen, John Hurley and Layne Pike

Members Absent: none

Guests: Chris Griffin

Amanda Germann called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

Review member minutes of: June 14, 2023 Pike motion, Berntsen 2nd, motion passed 5-0.

Reviewed warrants of: June 14, 2023, Tjaden motion, Berntsen 2nd, motion passed 5-0.

Approve warrants for: July 11, 2023, Pike motion, Tjaden 2nd, motion passed 5-0.

Review financial reports of: July 11, 2023 Tjaden motion, Berntsen 2nd, motion passed 5-0.

Old Business:

Members discussed dates and times for the upcoming RNR and budget hearings, Director said the hearings must fall between August 20 and September 20. Members chose August 21 at 6:30 pm for both hearings and August regular business meeting. Director will see the date and time will be published in the newspaper based on guidelines set forth by Sedgwick County Clerk.

Members exchanged views about the possibility of a rec center that would include a gym, classroom space, offices and indoor play area. Without being able to gauge the usage of the facility, they find it difficult to move forward with the construction of a rec center. Hurley proposed making improvements to the baseball fields at sports complex while Germann does not feel it is in Commission best interest to fund improvements to property that is not going to be maintained and overseen by Commission. Berntsen has spoken with the Clearwater Community Foundation that operates the Wellness Center and they are at the point they feel it is best to give the Commission both the building and contents of Wellness Center. Director said Commission can have property if it is gifted but not bought. Director has spoken to current Wellness Center Director about financial estimates and noted several areas with opportunities to renovate Wellness Center and provide more to the community through the Wellness Center. Including the current three mills the Commission receives plus the membership fees, the Commission would be able to operate the Wellness Center without additional funding needed from taxpayers. Members agreed this is an opportunity that would provide a way to immediately impact the community in a positive manner and look forward to receiving more definite information about the current operations of the Wellness Center.

New Business:

Griffin approached the Commission in regards to an incident involving a foul ball that hit his car windshield and broke it while it was parked in his driveway. A Commission sponsored 12U boys' team was practicing at the Elementary East field that is next to Griffin's property and during the practice, a ball broke his car's windshield. Director turned the incident into Commission insurance company but they deemed it as a no-fault accident and denied the claim. Griffin felt the team should not have been practicing on the field. Director said City Staff had already locked baseball field at sports complex without any notification and with other fields in use, the team used this particular field as a space to practice. Members discussed the events of the night leading up to the foul ball incident and Pike made a motion, Tjaden 2nd, to pay for the costs to repair Griffin's car windshield. Motion passed 5-0.

Director reported baseball season is officially complete and July events include bingo, hosting a kid's garage sale, coordination of a STEM activity with the library and youth volleyball clinic and league registrations.

Germann has reviewed bylaws and noted there have been no significant updates since 2003 so urged members to look them over to discuss any necessary changes to make sure meetings and members are operating Commission in a legal manner.

Hurley made a motion, Pike 2nd, to nominate Germann as Commission Chairman for 2023-2024. Motion passed 4-0. (Germann abstained)

Pike made a motion, Berntsen 2nd, to nominate Tjaden as Commission Vice Chairman for 2023-2024. Motion passed 4-0. (Tjaden abstained)

Pike made a motion, Tjaden 2nd, to nominate Hurley as Commission Secretary for 2023-2024. Motion passed 4-0. (Hurley abstained)

Adjournment at 9:07 p.m.

The next meeting will be August 21, 2023 at 6:30 PM in the library.

**Beki Zook
Recreation Director**