

**MINUTES OF THE  
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT WY  
CO/KCK BOARD OF PARK  
COMMISSIONERS**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

The February 9th, 2022 meeting of the Unified Government WyCo/KCK Board of Park Commissioners was held via ZOOM Online

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Unified Government Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Diana Aguirre, Chairman. Angel Obert, Director stated proper meeting notice had been given.

**ROLL CALL:**

Members present were recorded for the minutes.

**Board Members Present:**

Diana Aguirre, Chairman

Carolyn Wyatt, Member

Bridget Holton-Deere, Secretary

Faith Rivera

Micah King, Member

Vilmer Alvarado, Member

Billy Brame, First Vice Chair

Jeff Sachen, Second Vice Chair

Tammie Romstad/KCKPS

**Board Members Absent:**

John McTaggart, Member

Administration Present:

Angel Obert, Parks and Recreation, Director

Jack Webb, Parks and Recreation, Assistant Director

James Bain, Unified Government, Counselor

Nichole Marlowe, Parks and Recreation, Administrative Support Supervisor

## **I – PRELIMINARIES**

### **1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

A motion was made by Jeff Sachen to adopt the February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Agenda, was seconded by Carolyn Wyatt Carried (Ayes 8, Nays 0)

### **2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes of the January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 regular Board of Park Commissioners meeting are presented for review and consideration for approval.

A motion was made by Jeff Sachen, seconded by Carolyn Wyatt to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, regular meeting. Motion Carried (Ayes 8, Nays 0)

## **II - PRESENTATIONS, HEARINGS, COMMUNICATIONS**

### **1. Visitors**

Visitors may speak to the Board at this time.

As a general rule, the Board will not enter into discussion, but will direct Administration to take under advisement, make necessary response and bring items to a future agenda as may be appropriate.

- No Visitors

## 2. Correspondence

- No Correspondence

### III – OLD BUSINESS

- Nothing to Report

### IV - NEW BUSINESS

- Petition to the UG Parks & Recreation Department Regarding the Halt of Pesticide Applications at Rosedale Park -
  - Martin Cunningham - Stated he had done a lot of research on the compound that TruGreen is using on all of our parks. He was requesting the Board halt using/spraying Rosedale Park for a year. He stated that the studies show that they do not know the long-term effects of using compounds with 2-4D in them. He is currently working for the WYCO Health Department, so isn't a naïve consumer. Speaking from a knowledgeable perspective. Bottom line would like to halt the applications of the pesticides, and stated he believe that more mowing rounds would keep the weeds down.
  - Jeff Sachen asked if it is a glyphosate being put down or more like a trimec product?
  - Martin Cunningham responded There are 3 formulas used. No glyphosate is used.
  - Jeff Sachen stated - "So there is basically nothing being put down that is proven or is currently under lawsuit for causing cancer?"
  - Martin Cunningham – "No, nothing under lawsuit."
  - Jeff Sachen stated – "It may be a budgetary thing on the mowing to keep the weeds at bay. Maybe use a pre or post emergent."
  - Jack Webb responded – "I have TruGreen here, they will respond in a few minutes. We mow every 7 to 9 days. We have no irrigation there. We can't let others mow the Parks due to liabilities and conflicts. I'll let TruGreen talk on the chemicals."
  - Corey Pangborn with TruGreen stated – "The turf program that we utilize in WYCO is primarily, fertilizers and pre-emergent. Same products as competitors. Products can also be purchased in hardware store. Labels are primarily regarding concentrated versions. Since we are fully commercial licensed, we are only allowed to use products that have been approved by the State and Federal EPA and Department of Agriculture. Requires years of research to prove there are low risk factors to people and animals."
  - Martin Cunningham responded the tests done are not on combination of chemicals and are not tested on humans.

- Corey Pangborn stated – “Common household items have the same if not more lethal effect than the chemicals they are using, such as caffeine, black pepper and table salt. The chemicals we use are plant specific, they only target the plants the chemicals are designed for.”
  - Martin Cunningham asked if they are targeting flowering verse nonflowering plants?
  - Corey Pangborn responded – “Yes. We are treating the dandelions and clover to keep them under control. This is the best way to control them.”
  - Jeff Sachen stated – “Taking a year off of spraying is not a good thing.”
  - James Bain responded that the Commission will not get involved in the decision.
  - Diana Aguirre stated that she would like the matter looked into the matter further.
  - Jeff Sachen stated – “Mowing schedule will not change, due to budget.”
  - Martin Cunningham asked for an application schedule from TruGreen.
  - Corey Pangborn responded that he did not have that information tonight but would be able to get that information.
  - Angel Obert stated that they would rediscuss this at the March meeting.
- Bridal Trail Study Plan
    - Becca Pruettt with VIREO shared a presentation with the Board, showing the different problem areas of the trail.
    - Kerry Herndon explained that they had applied for a grant to improve the bridal trail at Wyandotte County Lake Park and are in the process of doing studies via VIREO on the area.
    - Becca Pruettt stated that they are getting a great response for updating the trail and that right now there is not a cost analysis for the project.

## V - OTHER BUSINESS

- **Staff Agenda**

Jack Webb –

- a. James P. Davis Hall Kitchen Renovations – This project is almost complete. There is a commercialized kitchen, and we are looking into a fire suppression system for the stove and the entire building.
- b. Covered Docks - Looking to install at the end of May.
- c. West Shop Replacement – Still on schedule for June.
- d. Update on Parks - Kaw Point parking lot has been re-stripped, Argentine Recreation Center has also been re-stripped and the Sunflower Hills Golf Course is in the process of being re-stripped this week. We also have crews throughout the entire city trimming trees and cleaning up leaves.

Angel Obert –

- a. ARPA Request – Went to the Commission to advocate for more funding to go to Parks & Recreation for maintenance and priority projects.
- b. KABOOM Project - Officially received funding for this project. The local funder is General Motors, there will be a Design Day at Beatrice Lee Community Center on Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Strategic Planning – There has been a great response from the community survey. We are identifying areas of strength and weakness. Will be presenting the results of the study to the Commission at the end of March.
- d. Lifeguards – We are recruiting for lifeguards. Wyandotte County is offering the highest wages in the metropolitan area , pay is starting at \$15 an hour and we are offering up to a \$300 bonus.
- e. USD 500 – Are wanting to do some work at Eisenhower. They received a grant for the sports field as of now they are not sure of the timeframe. Hoping to have a meeting at City Hall to discuss.
- f. COVID – As long as numbers keep going down the Board will start back to in person meetings. The Park Board has to have an actual place to hold compliant meetings.

● **BOARD MEMBER’S QUESTIONS OR COMMENT**

- Billy Brame asked about Eisenhower Project board meeting previous night talked about name change of ownership and costs.
  - Angel Obert stated that it was a decision from higher up, but is being worked on.
  - Tammie Romstad stated they are still waiting for more information about the grant for Eisenhower.
- Carolyn Wyatt asking if the Park Board would be redoing Officer Election’s due to the new board members.
  - James Bain stated the bylaws do not call for new elections. Bylaws can be changed. Bylaws call for elections in December.
- Jeff Sachen asked why WYCO residents don’t get precedence over non-residence of the county for the lottery for baseball fields.
- Angel Obert responded she would check into it.

(Jeff Sachen left the meeting at 7:49pm)

- Faith Rivera stated she went to an event at Matney Park on Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> regarding safety in our parks. Asked if there could possibly be more lighting installed and a camera. She said that the police want to be notified about problems in the parks when people see them. She stated that Rosedale Park looks great. She recently visited Big Eleven Lake and saw a few issues there some burnt tables and the stonework along street is coming apart.

- Jack Webb stated they are looking into adding more lighting at Matney Park trying to work with BPU for that. Stonework damage at Big 11 is due to an accident, and the vehicle involved had no insurance and the department recently lost our stonemason so we will have to contract the job out.
- Carolyn Wyatt stated Edgerton Park looks nice since we have cleaned it up.

## **VI – ADJOURNMENT**

Diana Aguirre requested to adjourn, Bridget Holton-Deere made a motion,  
Carolyn Wyatt seconded meeting was adjourned at 7:54PM.

Motion Carried (Ayes 8, Nays 0)

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Diana Aguirre, Chairman