

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOONE CITY PARKS COMMISSION
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023**

Coll called the meeting to order at 7:59 p.m.

1. Roll Call: Members present: Emily Coll, Kevin Pearson, John Niemants, and April Burch. Absent: Amy Landas.
Also present: Mike Cornelis and Cherie Angstrom. Guests: Boone Middle School Excel Class, Pat Dickerson and Larry Kelley
2. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Burch to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Pearson. All Ayes
3. Presentation of Petitions & Other Communication: none
4. Approve of previous meeting minutes: Motion by Pearson to approve the minutes seconded by Burch. All Ayes
5. Approval of monthly bills: Motion to approve the monthly bills with the addition of \$265 for Pool/Concession start-up cash made by Burch seconded by Pearson. All Ayes

Parks

Alliant Energy	Utilities	1808.89
Arnold Motor Supply	Repairs/Equipment Maint.	4.49
Iowa Dept. of Transportation	Supplies	354.59
Sunstrom Miller Press	Urban Forestry	80.00
Walters Sanitary Service	Buildings & Grounds	444.00
Boone Ace Hardware	Buildings & Grounds	19.98
Boone Ace Hardware	Buildings & Grounds	9.99
Boone Ace Hardware	Buildings & Grounds	9.99
Boone Ace Hardware	Buildings & Grounds	40.16
Bradley Rholl	Telephone	19.00
Bomgaars	Ponder – Boot/Clothing Allowance	133.98
American Legion Post #56	Buildings & Grounds	149.75
Ogden Telephone	Telephone/Internet	74.95
Tim Ponder	Telephone	19.00

Cemetery

Sunstrom Miller Press	Office Supplies	26.00
Boone Ace Hardware	Build/Grounds	10.38
Boone Ace Hardware	Office Supplies	5.99
Seth Janssen	Telephone	19.00
Bomgaars	Build/Grounds	49.98
American Legion Post #56	Build/Grounds	74.85

Pool

Sunstrom Miller Press	Supplies/Pool Pass Books/Punch Cards	342.50
Jet Drain Services	Swimming Pool Improvements	40,000.00
Jet Drain Services	Repairs	670.00
City of Boone	Pool/Concession Start up cash	265.00

6. Old Business:

- A. Playground Equipment – Update from Cornelis
There were a few options for a 40’ X 40’ playground space in Franklin Park around the \$50,000 price. Cornelis will forward pictures of the theme choices and age range targeted to the commissioners. If possible, Cornelis will see if the representative from the company can come and do a presentation at the June meeting.
- B. McHose Park cleanup volunteer day(s) – Update from Pearson and Cornelis
Pearson reported the insurance agent would advise against chain saws being used by volunteers, but it would still be the Board’s decision. If the volunteer days were organized and led by city employees, it could open up a case against the City’s liability since the volunteers would be “working” under the leadership of city employees. It would be better to have service organizations have their own groups with their own leaders. The park employees would make a list of what needs to be done and where. Coll, Pearson and Cornelis will contact service leaders in the community to see if there is an interest. Liability forms would still be used and there would be limits on what type of machinery the volunteers would be approved to operate.

7. New Business:

- A. Community Garden – Boone Middle School students
Boone Middle School Excel Students showed the board an excellent presentation to show why they would like to have a community garden. While the board supports the idea of a community garden, it was suggested putting it on school grounds and not in Cap Erbe Park. Burch is involved in a community garden with another organization and offered assistance to help get this project implemented. Burch will work with Mrs. MacDougall going forward.
- B. Park concerns – Pat Dickerson
Dickerson wanted to address the board with concerns about the condition of McHose Park. He likes to hike the trails in the park and is concerned about the condition of the old Daniel Boone Trail. Trails are grown over and trees have fallen blocking some of the trails. Railroad ties that were used for steps are rotting and need to be removed/replaced. He has reached out on social media and found there are several people sharing his concerns and willing to help. Specified volunteer days are a good idea but Dickerson wanted to know what volunteers can do on their own if they want to help. Cornelis suggested these tasks can be done by anyone wanting to help: picking up garbage, clearing leaves, limbs and sticks off the trail, participate in designated volunteer days. No chain saw use while working as an individual or group on their own. No removal of trees, plants, shrubs without park director’s permission. Volunteers can check with Cornelis to know priority of areas that need attention.
- C. Boone Pickleball Club – Larry Kelley
Kelley asked when the work will begin on the pickleball courts. Cornelis said it depends on the weather and the contractor’s schedule. No definite start date yet. Kelley suggested using locked gates once the work begins to prevent vandalism. It would be helpful to install security cameras also. Kelley also mentioned having a Grand Opening Ceremony/Tournament to recognize businesses and individual donors. This can be discussed in more detail once the project is complete. Kelley mentioned the lumber yard offered to supply the lumber to build a practice wall. Money is still being raised for a windscreen and dividers to divide the courts to keep balls from going into the other courts. More holes would need to be installed to add dividers and that would require additional cost.
- D. Resolution # 139 – Pool wages
Ayes: Niemants, Coll, and Burch. Landas: absent. Pearson: abstained
Resolution approved.
- E. Pool swim lessons – Refunds
Pearson made a motion to approve swimming lesson refunds that were due to an error on the website seconded by Burch. All ayes

8. Superintendent/Director’s Report – A magnolia tree was planted in front of City Hall in honor of Arbor Day 2023. Cornelis reported they are working on getting the pool ready. Filling should begin on Tuesday, May 9th. There are now two part-time employees for the parks dept. and two for the cemetery. There hasn’t been many applicants this year. Cornelis commented concerns about volunteers in the park: volunteers are great but not if it makes more work for the full time employees.

9. Commissioner’s Report – Pearson asked about the status of the other middle school Excel class project improving the Canine Corral. Cornelis said he is working with Mrs. MacDougall to figure out where/how to order the items listed by the students. Pearson also thought locking gates while construction of pickleball courts was a good idea. Burch wanted to add an item to the June agenda: DOT grant application for trail work. Burch also mentioned someone wanted to donate a used gazebo to the parks dept. Cornelis will take a look and see if it is something that can be used.

10. Public Comment for Items not on agenda – none

11. Adjournment – Pearson made a motion for adjournment seconded by Burch. All Ayes Motion approved at 8:08 pm

Commission Secretary _____

Commission President _____