

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOONE CITY PARKS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27TH, 2024**

Amy Landas called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call: Members present: John Niemants, Kevin Pearson and Amy Landas, Susan Thorngren, and Dave Sherry
Also present: Mike Cornelis -Director of Parks and Cherie Angstrom

2. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Pearson to approve the agenda seconded by Sherry. All Ayes

3. Park Board, Little League, and High School discussion – going forward plan

Landas started the meeting by saying there were concerns from community members about what has been done to the High School Girls Softball field at the Boone Little League complex. Chad Olson, president of the Boone LL Association, was present and was asked what changes are happening and why. Olson said there is a group of 13-year-old players that need a field to play on and changes were being made to the HS Softball field to adapt to also having boy's baseball on the same field. The changes involve adding an additional set of foul lines and installing plugs for base changes. The HS Softball coach had concerns about anchors/plugs in the playing field and having two separate foul lines may not be acceptable to out of town visiting teams. It would also be difficult to adjust their practice schedule. There was also a concern the field maintenance would not be up to current expectations. Olson said the boy's team would play only on days when the HS team is on away games. Landas asked if the Little League board has approached the High School Baseball coach about using Memorial Field since that is used for boys' baseball and would be the best choice since this would be for potential future high school players. Olson said they have not contacted anyone from the Boys High School program.

Landas wanted to make sure all options were considered since using the softball field isn't a desired option. It is important to find an option that would cause the least number of issues for other players. The representatives of the High School girls' softball program expressed their desire to keep their field for High School Softball use only.

Landas suggested they investigate Memorial Park as well as McHose Park as alternative places for the 13-year-old boys to play. Cornelis will confirm the Slow Pich Softball Schedule to verify what days they play their games in McHose Park. It is possible the fields would be available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Cornelis will let Olson know the available days and help with needs of the Little League to use the McHose location. Once an alternative field is found, it is understood that the Little League will restore the High School Softball field to its original condition.

4. Adjournment: Pearson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sherry. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Commission Secretary _____

Commission President _____

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING ON APRIL 8TH, 2024, AT 7 PM