

Blytheville City Council
Parks and Recreation Committee
March 8th, 2021

Council Member Attendance: Barbara Brothers, Ray Jones, John Mayberry, John Musgraves, and Matt Perrin

What have we done?

- Walker Park –
 - Tennis Court Lighting Project: waiting for Chief Jefferson to fix the electrical issues
 - Busted pipe in Public Restroom during snowstorm was repaired and reopened
- Williams Park –
 - After last month's discussion about bathrooms Director Slay shared with the committee that the old pool building is not the best option for public restrooms in the park due to safety concerns.
 - Estimated \$5,000 to open the North side of the concession stand for access to the restrooms for the public and implementing some safety precautions in the building.
- Golf Course –
 - Monument Sponsorship opportunities for local businesses are being distributed by Director Slay and Superintendent Farrow. Deadline is April 1st, 2021.
 - February 2021 revenues exceeded February 2020 revenues despite bad weather
 - Many tournaments booked for the 2021 season
- Ritz –
 - Wallpaper installed!
 - Arkansas Historic Preservation Grant submitted to repair roof, remove asbestos, ADA compliant bathrooms, and safety implementation
 - Looking to reopen the Ritz in April
 - Next Showing:
 - The Goonies, March 20th @ 7 PM \$10 per vehicle concessions provided
- Sportsplex –
 - BBSB will have a spring ball season – check their Facebook page for sign up details
 - Concession stand contract revised for Healing in the Hood to take over this year
- Delta Gateway Museum –
 - Director Hester reported about a doll video they shared through social media
 - Commission will meet this week to discuss reopening
- Arkansas Governor's Conference on Tourism –
 - Director Slay learned lots of great opportunities for Blytheville including the 2024 Eclipse events and preparation, angler attraction through Game and Fish, and much more!
- Notes
 - Director Slay shared that the Arkansas Outdoors Program 50/50 matching grant is coming up and shared several ideas for projects to apply for including: walking trail improvements, bathroom updates, tennis court revamp, Walker Park road/parking/walking lane improvements, splashpad, playground at Sportsplex, Cyprus Park improvements, and slide addition at Nelson Park.
 - Lots of great discussion about the setting priorities and grant requirements. Public meetings with citizens to come in the future.

- Upcoming Events
 - Blytheville Walk Audit – Late April
 - 15 community members will walk 3 blocks of Downtown Blytheville with engineers and other UCA professionals to evaluate the walkability, ADA compliance, and bike-ability of our Main Street.
 - Blytheville Chamber Banquet – April 22nd @ 5:30 PM
 - ART Hanger, contact the Chamber for tickets and table sponsor information
 - Blytheville Fishing Rodeo – May 29th @ 7 AM
 - Walker Park Pond: Event Sponsored by AR Game and Fish Commission
- Business
 - A motion was made by Councilwoman Brothers to accept the newly revised Sportsplex Concession Stand Contract for 2021 – with the provision of \$50 per week for rent when activity is happening at the Sportsplex (\$200 per month). Councilman Jones seconded the motion and it was sent to the full City Council for approval.

Next Meeting

Monday, April 12th, 2021 @ 4 PM in the Ritz Civic Center