

CITY OF MISSION, KANSAS
PARKS, RECREATION, AND TREE COMMISSION MEETING
AGENDA

THURSDAY, November 8, 2018
6:00 p.m.
Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center

“To enrich the quality of life for residents of Mission and surrounding areas by fostering a strong sense of community and providing a variety of multi-generation activities that promote healthy lifestyles.”

1. Approval of September 17, 2018 meeting minutes (Mark R)
2. Citizen Request - Mohawk Park (Laura)
3. Update on Director’s Recruitment (Laura)
4. Information from TreeKeepers Training Series (Jacque)
5. TreeCity USA Recertification Process (Laura)
6. Upcoming Programs/Events: - (Kathy)
 - Free Family Fun Nights (1/4, 2/1)
 - 4:45-8:00pm @ SPJCC - Popping popcorn
 - Thanks for Seniors (Thursday, November 15, 11:30am-2:00pm)
 - Holiday Lights & Festive Sights (Friday, December 7, 5:00-8:00pm)
 - Thanksgiving and Christmas Family Adoptions
7. Discussion of potential improvements for Mowhawk Park (Laura)
8. CIP Committee Update - (Laura)
9. Other
10. Adjournment

Mark Raduziner - Chairperson
Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center
6200 Martway St.
913-722-8200



Mission Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 17, 2018

The City of Mission Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission met at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center in the Breakout Room on Monday, **September 17, 2018** at 6:00 p.m.

In attendance: Mark Raduziner, Ward IV, Anne O'Leary, Ward I, Karin Capron, Ward II, Mary Funk, Ward IV, Jacque Gameson, Ward IV, Amy Burkes, Ward IV, Lekha Sreedhar, Ward I, Dahnika Short, Ward II, Melissa Currie, Ward II, Lindsay Vaughn, Ward III
Laura Smith, Kathy Lockard and Jenny Smith represented staff.

Absent - Erin Beaslin, Ward IV, Deborah Rushing, Ward III, Cougar Gray, Non-Resident and Deacon Watson, student representative.

Guests - Luis Bendavides, Nick shepherd, Aaron Cherry ad Jenna Dickman - Parks and Recreation Staff

Mark called the meeting to order @ 6:05 p.m.

Approval of the minutes from August 20, 2018

- **Mary Funk** moved to approve the minutes;
- **Karin Capron** seconded;
- **Motion passed** with adding the word potentially to the Development of 6 month Work Plan – Water Works Park.

New Staff

- Laura introduced **Aaron Cherry**, Maintenance/Facilities Supervisor – doing a great job. Started in July.
- **Jenna Dickman** – Aquatics Coordinator - Started September 4th – primarily work on classes.

2018 Summer Camp Program Recap

- **Jenny Smith** introduced **Nick Shepherd**, Recreation Program Coordinator as overseeing the Summer Camp. He presented a powerpoint on the camp and gave members a handout;
- Possibly look in to offering Mission Residents earlier enrollment starting in 2019;

- Suggested trying to do a roundup program on an annual membership - \$5 - \$10 to help support scholarships.
- **Anne O'Leary** suggested waiting to think of something simpler for this as not to put patrons under pressure. Round up for a smaller amount.
- Put out more signage to promote at Family Fun Night.

2018 Mission Family Aquatic Center Update – Luis

- **Luis Benavides** presented members with the information for 2018 MFAC revenue and expenses;
- 101 days in operation for the summer – closed less than 5 days over the entire summer. Did not necessarily close for the entire day;
- Green slide was a new addition – everyone enjoyed it;
- Luis had revamped the concession area and had an increase of almost 50% revenue;
- Will focus on more rentals in 2019;
- Spoke on personnel – we were at full staff this year which was a benefit, which caused the expenses to go up;
- Water and sewer are larger expenses;
- MFAC does not have a specific cost recovery, but in previous years we were only having a cost recovery of 25%;
- All lifeguards are certified with the American Red Cross;
- Membership visits went down, but daily paid visits increased;
- Looking into getting more Day Cares in to use the facility in 2019. The aquatic coordinator position was vacant all summer and is now filled so this should increase class participation in 2019;
- Super Pool Pass revenues are currently being calculated;
- Luis spoke on some special programs – Dive In Movies – had 2 this summer – First had 50 people – second had 65 people. Both were themed;
- Pool Party for Pooches – Tuesday after Labor Day. 2nd session was not as successful as the first due to the weather;
- Staff will work on being able to have more time for lap swimming, possibly a dedicated time. Look in to having a specific time (evenings) for adults only.

Update on Director's Recruitment

- Laura passed around the job posting;
- Start October 1st review of resumes, Schedule first round of reviews end of October. Position will be open until it is filled;
- Let Mark or Laura know if you are interested in being on the interview committee;
- Laura filled in as Parks & Recreation Director in the past. Laura is bringing in John Vaughn as Interim Director until the position is filled. He will work approximately 25 hours per week.
- Laura will remain available to staff.

Recap of Bus Tour and Outdoor Park Improvements

- Laura handed out the packet from the Parks, Recreation Master Plan that was given to the members on the tour;
- It was good to visibly see the parks;
- Group spent a little time going through each park;
- If you took notes please share them with Kathy;

ANDERSEN PARK

Jenny worked on the tennis court net and got it repaired.

No railing on the steps in the park by the tennis courts.

Needs major work. Just because the pool is new – it still needs repair.

Picnic shelters need work.

We need to have a goal for each park.

Discussion on the tennis courts – need to remain in that park. Need to address the flooding and the surfacing. Laura has some proposals. Still need to look at fencing and lighting. Laura feels like it is more reasonable than was expected to fix the surface.

South side of the fence – erosion.

Nice to have an edging around the playground.

Fountains for people and dogs – liked.

Need benches with armrest to be able to assist on getting up.

Lot of benches have erosion – this is a standard for all the parks.

Like to have the same benches as Legacy in all the parks.

More seating since it is used for lunches, etc.

Much of the equipment needs updated.

When we make a change in Andersen Park, we need to get approval from the state of Kansas if we are making a major improvement – such as moving the tennis courts because land and water conservation grant funds are used.

Aquatic Center – routine maintenance on the play features and shade structures.

Anne pointed out that MFAC has a planned maintenance and our Parks do not.

BROADMOOR PARK

Has landscaping

Bathroom – needs repair

Best parking

Native wildlife – needs to be cleaned up a little.

Educational signage – should be in waterworks park – tiny piece of ecosystem in each of the parks.

This is a star park for the community to get together.

Need to make the commitment to maintain the native wildlife.

The utility shed at the Southeast corner in Broadmoor would be a great place for a mural.

**Small Black Gum tree at the corner - did not survive.

Shelter in Broadmoor could use some paint., Also the playground could use some paint.

Ball diamond in Broadmoor – Anne O’Leary would like to keep it. It does get used. No one over the age of 9 should be hitting due to cars in the area.

What can we do to interest the corporate businesses to use the park?

Make the diamond a nice usable area.

The dog park task force has been eyeballing this park. October 27th is going to have a Pop-up Dog Park in this park.

MOHAWK PARK

Need to have unique playground area.

Should have a large shelter – for the size of this park.

Need more benches.

Need bathrooms.

Northeast United Soccer uses this park.

Playground equipment is newer but needs painting.

Electrical service – check to see if that works;

Water and sewer – may have been capped off from the school building.

Mohawk park should take priority for a bathroom.

PARK ON BEVERLY

Make sure it meets the community center needs – overflow of some of our activities.

When the apartment complex is finished – this park may become more lively.

PEARL HARBOR PARK

Maintenance issues.

ROCK CREEK TRAIL

This is part of the Johnson County Streamway system.

STREAMWAY PARK

We do not own this park. It is hard to figure out what we can do since we do not own this park.

Need to be able to maintain this park.

This is a unique park.

Litter – needs to be cleaned up.

Laura will do her homework on our options for this park.

Get the graffiti cleaned up on the benches.

Need more visible trash cans in this park. – Jenny stated that there are trash cans along the trail and the trails are clean.

It is the parking lot that is not clean.

WATERWORKS PARK

This park is owned by Water One. Tanks under the ground.

Nice park – this was where the largest amount of people were when we toured the park.

This park needs to be upgraded.

Has lots of problems when it rains.

Give up on trying to fight the mud puddle. Put a bridge over it and let the wildlife grow.

The baseball area is used for ultimate frisbee.

Need to remove the backstop.

Bathrooms in this park in conjunction with Waterone.
Plant trees in this park every year for Arbor Day so have a connection with Water One.
Not sure if waterworks park can get a bathroom due to the underground water storage.
Educational signage – should be in waterworks park – tiny piece of ecosystem in each of the parks.

OVERALL OBSERVATIONS

Let's start looking at play structures.

Have a plan as to what years we are going to focus on each park.

Keep up with the maintenance and balance out.

Each park has its own identity.

One sheet front and back – that shows that each park is going to have something done in each park to show patrons for the sales tax proposal.

Need to pick a park to start on and then have a plan for all the other parks.

Suggestion was made to start with Mohawk Park since it has never been improved. It is a visible park and used lots by soccer participants and neighbors.

Bathrooms, shelters, water fountains, playground equipment – Jenny will pick up information.

Play by yourself activities – encourage people to come to the parks.

Does every park need to have a permanent bathroom structure year around?

Get back into the park signage as well. Laura will get branding from other cities with pictures.

What is the look and feel we are after, before we look at fonts.

Bring back signage and Mohawk Park at the next meeting.

Laura encouraged the committee to walk around the Community Center to look at the improvements made during the closure.

Free Family Fun Nights

- **Mary Funk** and **Anne O'Leary** – work October 5th.
- **Mary Funk** and **Karin Capron** will work November 2nd.
- All hands on deck for Spooky Swim - Friday, October 26th.

CIP

Suggestions come from PRT Committee to go to the Council. CIP will start up again at the first of the year.

Other

Laura will work with Karin and Jacque for the Arbor Day Poster Contest.

Jacque thanked Mellissa and her husband for joining the Tree Keepers event.

The mulching of our trees at Sylvester Powell is volcano mulched and needs to be changed.
Aaron took note to contact the contractor.

Adjournment:

Anne O'Leary moved to adjourn the meeting;

Dahnika Short seconded;

Motion passed;

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Faithfully submitted by Kathy Lockard, Administrative Supervisor

REPORT TO MISSION PARKS, RECREATION AND TREE COMMISSION

From Tree Keepers Volunteer Training 2018

Participants: Mellissa Currie and Jacque Gameson

From September 6, 2018, through October 4, 2018, fifteen hours of classroom and field training was conducted by Bridging the Gap, Heartland Tree Alliance, Kansas Forest Service, Johnson and Wyandotte County Extension Services, a landscape architect, and a local municipality arborist..

Training included

- Tree Identification in classroom and at field exercises
- Soil and Tree Biology
- Tree Selection and Planting
- Classroom and Field Tree Planting, Pruning and Survival Tree Care
- Tree Problems, Insects and Diseases
- Planting Avondale Redbud tree at Broadmoor Park, north of circle, between benches

Most important recommendations for tree care in Mission Parks

- **City of Mission should contract with landscapers who will NOT volcano mulch trees.**
Volcano mulching suffocates a tree and creates decay at the critical root flair



NO Volcano mulching- highest at trunk



Properly mulched 3 inches from trunk, deeper at edges

- **Mower and trimmer damage is contributing to the decline and loss of many of our park trees.** Contractors must be monitored and fined by the City for this damage. For the first five to seven years after newly planting a tree maintain a wide mulch ring to protect the trunk and minimize traffic in the young tender root zone. Black Gum planted in 2015 north of the circle in Broadmoor Park didn't survive due to deep cuts on all sides of the trunk.

Elliott's Poster Award Bur Oak also has trunk damage >>>>>>>>> and has not been mulched since planting. More trunk damage is evident throughout Broadmoor and Waterworks Parks. Increasing the diameter of the mulch ring on selected valuable mature trees is encouraged to prevent further damage.



- **Ash tree east of gazebo at Broadmoor Park is in a very good condition, in a very great place for shading the public use area.** EAB treatment should begin on this tree >>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>>
 >>>>>>>>
 >>>>>>>>



Other ash trees at the South edge of Broadmoor Park are showing signs of EAB and should be monitored closely for potential removal to avoid hazards on the trail.

- **Several trees at Anderson Park have been pruned too high for good survival.** A properly pruned tree retains 2/3 of tree's height leafy canopy and 1/3 in trunk, with the crown only thinned and pruned to improve strength and shape.



- **The beginning of an excellent example of a diverse urban forest consisting of trees adaptable to our Northeast Kansas environment has been planted over the past 11 years at Waterworks Park.** All of these trees should continue to be remulched annually to protect them from further mower damage and decrease drought decline. Young tree should only be staked for one full year after planting and the stakes removed in July. Adding permanent markers to this forest would educate our community to the use of these diverse trees in their residential landscapes. A poster in the signboard at Waterworks Park mapping and identifying these trees could be a good start in this educational process. The public gathering area at Mohawk Park would be another good location to develop an identified diverse urban forest.
- **Share with City staff responsible for tree selection and planting the PDF file by Robert Whitman, titled "Trees in Kansas City."** This presentation of the data Robert compiled includes characteristics and success percentiles on trees adaptable to our environment.

Every topic of this training stressed the importance of Planting the Right Tree, In the Right Place, using the Right Method and continuing to provide the Right Care.

Thank you for the opportunity to engage with 25 other tree huggers from throughout the metro area to learn more about planting the seeds of success to sustain our valuable urban tree canopy.



FACILITY INVENTORY

Name of Site: Mohawk Park

Date Completed: January 16, 2015

Completed By: Hank Moyers

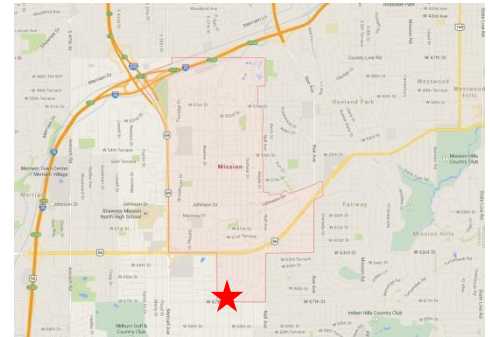
CONFLUENCE

BALLARD KING
& ASSOCIATES LTD

1. SITE LOCATION:

Mohawk Park is located in south Mission off of West 67th Street. The park boundaries to the east and west are Horton Street and Lamar Avenue.

67th and Lamar



2. GENERAL SITE DESCRIPTION:

Age: **31 Years**

Size: **8 Acres**

Classification: **Neighborhood Park**

As the City's largest park site, this former school parcel is largely undeveloped with significant green space for pick up athletic events and practices. The school's parking lots still remain to support activities on the site.

3. INVENTORY OF FACILITY AMENITIES AND CONDITIONS:

Trail:	+	Soccer Field:	0
Benches:	-	Softball Field:	-
Landscape:	0	Parking Lots:	0/-
Playground:	-		

RATING KEY

- +** Excellent Condition
- 0** Good Condition
- Needs Improvement

4. STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES:

Strengths: The Mohawk Park site contains a softball backstop, playground and parking lots, but the majority of this site is relatively undeveloped and available for additional programs. Existing agreements with a local soccer club contribute to some field maintenance in exchange for first rights to use the facility for team practices. When available, open green spaces provide a good location for residents to practice and enjoy pick up athletic activities. The perimeter walking trail around the park was replaced in 2015 and serves residents with an opportunity to walk measurable distances.

Opportunities: Mohawk Park remains relatively open with only a few parking areas, a playground and trails within the park. This green space provides much needed practice facilities for organized athletic teams in Mission, however the site does not support extended use of the facility, primarily because of a lack of permanent restroom facilities. Restrooms and storage facilities should be considered for the site. Irrigation installation would assist with quicker recovery of over used fields and provide more opportunities for formal athletic field layouts. Resident polling has indicated a desire to provide restrooms, greenhouses, shelters and a dog park as potential improvements.

5. ACCESSIBILITY RATING (SCALE OF 1 TO 5):

Rating: **3**

This park provides pedestrian connections to surrounding neighborhood sidewalks and parking for vehicular traffic. Several trail loops around the park make most areas of the park accessible. Additional effort should be made to enhance playground spaces to meet current accessibility standards.

6. GENERAL NOTES:

% Floodplain: **0**

Maintenance Schedule: **Weekly**

Active/Passive: **Active**

Trail Distance: **.4 Miles**

7. PHOTO INVENTORY:



Image 1: Playgrounds and surfacing are in need of replacement to meet current ADA standards.



Image 2: The open play field provides a good location for local residents in the surrounding neighborhood to hold practices and gatherings.



Image 3: The backstop provides residents with opportunities to hold practices and unorganized games.



Image 4: The perimeter asphalt walking trail was replaced in 2015.



Image 5: Mohawk Park remains relatively undeveloped and provides a good location for local teams to practice.