

MINUTES OF THE MISSION SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 27, 2020

The Mission City Council met virtually via ZOOM for a Special City Council Meeting on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ron Appletoft. The following Councilmembers participated virtually: Trent Boultinghouse, Ken Davis, Sollie Flora, Kristin Inman, Debbie Kring, Arcie Rothrock, Nick Schlossmacher and Hillary Thomas.

The Mayor stated that because of the COVID-19 social distancing recommendations, this meeting is being held virtually via ZOOM. The Mayor, City Councilmembers and staff joined remotely. While the City Administrator, Laura Smith and City Clerk, Audrey McClanahan, participated from their own work stations at City Hall. The public was invited to take part in the meeting by using the instructions included in the City Calendar item listed on the front page of the website. The public may join or just listen, or join with audio and/or video using a webcam or smartphone. The public will be allowed to make comments through the "chat" feature and should note that comments are visible by the group. Members of the public are requested to state their name and city of residence when making a public comment. Mayor Appletoft also asked all to be conscientious of others talking and to speak clearly and slowly.

Mission Parks and Recreation Facilities Reopening Plan and Operational Controls

Ms. Smith introduced the reopening plan for parks and recreation facilities including the Community Center as many of these are incorporated in Phase II of the Statewide Recovery Plan that became effective May 22, 2020. This more specific plan follows the approved Resolution 1049 on May 13, 2020 which addressed the general reopening and recovery plan for City facilities, programs and services.

Penn Almone, Director of Parks and Recreation presented on two memorandum and matrices that detailed the various recommendations and protocols to be implemented upon final Council approval. During the evaluation and analysis of Mission's ability to re-open the Community Center and other parks' amenities, the City took many aspects into consideration. These included the health and safety of patrons, guests and staff. The ability to maintain a high quality service or experience, and the staff's ability to consistently and effectively implement safety and sanitizing procedures. Staff also reviewed and considered recommendations of the CDC and other industry guidelines, Governor Kelly's Ad-Astra: A Plan to Reopen Kansas, as well as neighboring communities' plans and recommendations.

In order to accommodate patrons as safely as possible while providing adequate services, staff used a comprehensive matrix to address available resources. Some

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of the key recommendations included restricted age guidelines during phases and exclusive access for vulnerable populations. The cardio and selectorized equipment become available in Phase II with appropriate machine spacing and cleaning. The free weights and pool would become accessible in Phase III with the completion of the pool resurfacing. With regard to rental groups, anticipated access would return no sooner than July 1 with applicable size limitations.

The City's specific recommendations for various facilities include:

- Handball Courts - reopen Phase 4/Phase Out
- Tennis Courts - never closed/remain open throughout
- Outdoor Pool (MFAC) - will not open for 2020 season
- Sprayground - opens Phase 3
- Playgrounds - reopen Phase 4/Phase Out
- Park Rentals - reopen Phase 4/Phase Out
- Park Restrooms - reopen Phase 4/Phase Out

Cleaning and sanitation protocols have been adopted and will be implemented at the Sprayground, park restrooms and playgrounds once they reopen. Social distancing will be emphasized at every location. Signage at parks, park facilities, kiosks and messages on social media channels will be consistent to eliminate confusion and create a strong central message of expected and appropriate behaviors.

Consistent with other COVID-19 recommendations to date, this reopening and recovery plan lags behind the timelines allowed by the state. This is intentional and based on our belief that each phase and transition will require extensive planning, staff training, and patron communication and education in order to implement safely and effectively. The City has taken a conservative approach to reopening in an effort to go through the phases as effectively and safely as possible.

Councilmember Flora confirmed that masks would not be required for rental patrons when in the specific rental area. Mr. Almoney advised that if a rental patron needs to travel outside the room in which the event is going on, they would be required to wear a face mask in conjunction with Facility policy. Mr. Almoney stressed that anytime they can come in contact with facility staff and patrons then the objective is to safeguard those interactions.

Councilmember Flora followed up with clarification on the room agreement and waiver requirements for rentals as well as a symptom screening checklist for patrons. Mr. Almoney responded that templates are currently being reviewed to provide patrons with documents that address the risks associated with public

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exercising and make sure they abide by the elements and protocols in place to protect the community. Also, there would be screening questions provided to patrons and vendors. These included statements such as: Are you feeling well today? Do you have any symptoms that could be associated with COVID-19 (i.e. fever, coughs, muscle aches, loss of taste or smell)? Have you been around any person confirmed with COVID-19? They would be granted admittance based on their answers to the questions. Ms. Smith added that there would be a log that would require vendors, contractors and other non-employees entering City facilities, to sign in for safety records. Patrons would have to sign the log at the Community Center but the general public would not have to at City Hall.

Mr. Almoney responded to a public question that the waiver acts as a tracing element and gives a resource to utilize should there be a need to notify people. For rentals, they are not asking for the attendees list up front but will emphasize the need to have that information if requested.

Councilmember Davis asked about the pool resurfacing and if that would coincide with the June 22 opening. Mr. Almoney answered that the pool would not open before July 1 and would have limitations such as scheduled lap lanes and reservations. He added they had more work to do with training guards which will have to be implemented before reopening. He stressed that they anticipate high-demand and an order will need to be established for patrons' usage without conflict which leads to the need for reservations. Ms. Smith commented that in regards to the pool resurfacing, if all goes according to plan.

Councilmember Davis asked about physical therapy in the side pool area and if that would still be operational. Mr. Almoney said that would possibly be an option in Phase IV, so they can have as much of the lap pool available for usage of open swim at initial reopening.

Ms. Smith asked and Mr. Almoney confirmed the communication with the Stroke Foundation, who is a long-term renter for the Community Center, in understanding their needs and expectations that they do not plan to utilize the facility any sooner than the middle of July.

Mr. Almoney responded to an online question that it is recommended that racquetball, with two people, opens no sooner than June 22nd as part of Phase III.

Councilmember Flora followed-up regarding the rationale for allowing members to remove masks while exercising. She indicated that it was her understanding that the CDC recommends that masks should preferably not be taken off and one. Mr. Almoney said a video would be created to help patrons understand how to handle

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the masks while working out and transitioning as well as outlining the restricted use areas and highlighting the modified use. Ms. Smith emphasized that we are not relying on patrons to sanitize equipment exclusively, instead staff will be stationed to sanitize the equipment between usage.

Councilmember Kring said the matrix was very user-friendly and wondered if this is on the website. Mr. Almoney said the City's intent was to put a highlighted version of the document on the website and email it out by Friday.

Councilmember Boultinghouse thanked Mr. Almoney for his work and asked what would be the next steps if a patron did test positive. Mr. Almoney said some ways to combat this would be limiting time on the equipment and group gatherings around the gym. If someone did test positive they would have the waiver tracing element to reach out to individuals as well as closing the facility for a a two-day cleaning period.

Councilmember Thomas thanked Mr. Almoney and asked what the phases would look like for Mission as they moved through each step. Mr. Almoney thinks having the phasing in-house, and detached from the State plan, is more positive and helps the Parks and Recreation team judge how this will affect the City and when to go into the next phase. These decisions can be affected by the data from the area as well as the numbers of people going into the Center. Ms. Smith added that the transition between phases was targeted at 14 days, and that staff will monitor county-wide and statewide data as the City moves through the various reopening phases. The goal is to be slow, steady and safe.

Councilmember Schlossmacher asked about an earliest possible end date to release restrictions since there could be external demand if the environment is progressing positively and people want to see that conclusion. Ms. Smith commented that will depend in large part on the State's Recovery Plan. Currently, Phase IV/Phase Out is not specific with respect to gathering limits or social distancing requirements. We will have to see how this process evolves.

Councilmember Flora asked about the gating criteria and if there were any concerns now that the State does not have any regulations in place. Ms. Smith replied that the City didn't make any changes following the previous week's legislative session and the City's plan is being followed and maintained to keep recovery and reopening for City facilities slowed down so as to be implemented correctly and safely in this changing landscape.

Ms. Smith added that as the reopening plan is considered, it is evident Council has been gracious and taken great care in keeping full and part-time staff with whole

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pay and that it has been sincerely appreciated. Currently, all full-time employees are back, however, with operational challenges and the level of detail needed to reopen the Community Center, not all part-time staff have been able to come back to work. It was asked that Council consider keeping the part-time employees whole financially until the end of the month for approximately \$15,000 to assist about 70 employees at the Community Center. Then on June 1, revised schedules and hours would be made available. However, staff would not be guaranteed the same amount of hours but they would do the best to share hours and move forward in the process. Anyone that did not make themselves available for the reopening schedule would be furloughed.

Councilmember Davis thanked staff for all the work and consideration they put into this plan and recognized their efforts during this difficult time.

Councilmember Thomas asked that if the splash pad would be opened for members or residents and recommended an online sign-up to utilize that service. Mr. Almoney said that they will consider anything that will help manage the demand for the service and implement those safeguards.

Councilmember Flora asked if the online packet would be updated with the survey data because it was useful information about the Community. Ms. Smith commented that could be accommodated.

Moved by Davis, seconded by Rothrock to approve the reopening plan for Parks & Recreation facilities including the Community Center and additionally approve the recommendation that the part-time staff be paid their part-time salary through the end of the month, May 31. Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Davis, Flora, Inman, Kring, Rothrock, Schlossmacher, Thomas. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Appletoft announced that the public video from tonight's meeting will be available through a link on the City's website - missionks.org.

Moved by Thomas, seconded by Davis to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m. All present voted AYE. **Motion carried.**

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Respectfully submitted by Audrey McClanahan, City Clerk.

Ronald E. Appletoft, Mayor

Audrey M. McClanahan, City Clerk