

FILE COPY

Cameron Park Board Meeting

June 27, 2013

6:00 pm

Cameron City Hall

Members Present:

Chairman Bill Gimson

Al Briggs

Jennifer Helmich

Jason Jones

Michael Teegarden

Members Absent:

Matt Jameson

Kari Teel

Jamey McVicker

Others Attending:

Steve Garr, Parks Director

Kent Osborn – EDOC Member

Terry Rumary – EDOC Advisor

Mike O'Donnell – Planning & Zoning and EDOC Member

Frank Buck

Chris Johnson, Cameron Newspaper

Chairman Gimson called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Approval of May 23, 2013 Minutes

Mr. Teegarden made a motion to approve minutes of the May 23, 2013 meeting; seconded by Ms. Briggs. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 5, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 3.

Public Participation

EDOC

Kent Osborn, Terry Rumary and Mike O'Donnell were present from the Cameron EDOC Committee to clear the air about the ½ cent sales tax concept Mayor Dennis Clark brought to the Park Board's attention at prior meetings.

Mr. Osborn stated that the EDOC committee has not voted to place the sales tax on the November ballot, but has only looked at options the tax could be used for and how it would benefit the community.

Mr. Osborn stated that there are many possibilities for the use of the proposed sales tax; however, before moving forward, it is imperative that multiple entities (City, EDOC, Park Board, hospital, school, etc) work together. Mr. Osborn also stated that public support and education about the tax is imperative before it is placed on the ballot.

Terry Rumery, EDOC Advisor, reassured the Board that any decision would be made with the Park Board's input and recommendation. He also stated that public input was vital to the success of the proposed tax.

Mr. Rumery expressed that the EDOC committee's main goal is to improve the community in any and all ways possible.

Chairman Gimson expressed a concern with wrapping the ball fields and swimming pool into the tax because the schools use the facilities in conjunction with the City. The public may think that the improvements are made for the school and parks and not for the purpose of economic development.

Mr. Osborn stated that a well laid out plan needs to be put into place. Options will need to be presented to the community so community members can see how the economic development tax will directly benefit them. Otherwise, the tax will probably not pass.

Mr. Rumery stated that livability in a community is very important. If the community is not livable, recreation and satisfactory jobs, big businesses will not move into the area. Time needs to be dedicated to planning uses and action plans for the tax. An economic development tax is a big project and needs a strategic approach to planning so the wants and needs of the community are met.

Frank Buck expressed that the Board should follow up with City Council about their thoughts on the proposed aquatic center. Mr. Buck believes that the aquatic facility is important and should be focused on as a priority.

Mr. Jones stated that he agrees that the aquatic facility is important; however, he is afraid that with the time constraint placed on the Board to inform the community about the project, the tax would be difficult to sell and ultimately fail when it came to a vote.

Mr. Teegarden stated that it would be beneficial to work with the EDOC committee to obtain a larger tax that will largely benefit community development. With the economic development tax, the community can get more for the money and if it is used wisely, develop great things.

Mr. Osborn stated that the proposed economic development tax will not be placed on the ballot in November. The EDOC committee plans to hold public meetings and inform the community and not rush the vote.

Mike O'Donnell, EDOC member, stated that over the years, he has seen multiple groups working on their own and as a result not receiving the benefits and goals they were working towards.

Mr. O'Donnell stated that for the City to survive, people need to move to Cameron, build homes and businesses and spend money in the community.

Mr. O'Donnell stated that one large goal of EDOC is to work with all the different entities in town to create something worthwhile and great. With everyone working together to plan for the future, a great and feasible package can be put together that will create growth and revenue for Cameron.

Mr. O'Donnell stated that EDOC is committed to working with the community and to not go ahead with a plan without keeping everyone in the loop.

Ms. Briggs asked what the Board needed to do to start the partnership with EDOC.

Mr. Rumery stated that the partnership was developed during the meeting. The lines of communication were opened and now everyone can begin working together to move forward.

Mr. O'Donnell believes that steps are being made to proceed with the project. He also stated that all EDOC meetings are noticed and open so everyone can bring their ideas.

Mr. Teegarden asked if there were grants available to apply for to help with economic development.

Mr. Rumery stated that there are always grants to apply for and other avenues the City can take. He expressed that EDOC is looking into all avenues.

Chairman Gimson asked that EDOC notify the Board when the committee meetings are so Board members can attend and become an active part of the process.

Mr. Osborn stated that he would like members of the Park Board to attend the meeting and will provide the Board with meeting times.

Planning & Zoning – Comprehensive Plan

Mike O'Donnell, Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Board, addressed the Board to discuss the work that is being done to update the City's current Comprehensive Plan. The revisions would be added to the current plan through public meetings and public participation.

Planning & Zoning has identified five areas to update in the plan and parks and recreation was identified as an area.

Mr. O'Donnell stated that in the current plan, there is very vague information about the future of the parks and recreation system. He suggested that the Board look 10, 15, 20 and 30 years down the road as to what they see for the future of the parks system.

Mr. O'Donnell stated that a plan is important and beneficial when applying for grants and other monies that may become available.

Mr. Jones asked about a timeline Planning & Zoning is looking at to update the book.

Mr. O'Donnell stated that if the Board could get a list together in the next six months it would be give Planning & Zoning enough time to put everything together.

Mr. O'Donnell also stated that he can provide the Board with the current Comprehensive Plan book if they would like it.

Chairman Gimson stated that he will have the Comprehensive Plan added to the agenda for the next few meetings so the Board can work on it.

Mr. O'Donnell stated that he is willing to come back to another meeting if needed.

Treasury Report

Mr. Garr stated that the 2012 ledger was mistakenly placed on the treasurer's report.

Forman's Report

Mr. Garr reported that the restroom projects are moving along smoothly and that the exterior work is almost completed. Plumbing should begin soon.

Mr. Garr also reported that the parks department has kept busy with mowing and ball tournaments.

Chairman Gimson asked about the Chamber helping with the 4th of July activities and if the Park's Department is doing their part.

Mr. Garr stated that the Park's Department is doing their part on cleaning up and helping with the activities. He stated that the Chamber always tries to clean up after the events and the City finishes up what is left.

Mr. Garr reported that the summer staff is working out well this summer.

Lighting Project

Mr. Teegarden asked about the lighting project at Recreation Park and if any progress was being made.

Mr. Garr stated that the last time he spoke with Jay Erdman, he was still working on pricing and ordering materials for the project.

Mr. Teegarden stated that he would like an update about the project at the next meeting.

Mr. Garr will contact the City Manager and Jay Erdman and let them know the Board has requested an update at the July meeting.

Scoreboards

Mr. Garr contacted Kevin Nichols about the purchase of a third scoreboard for the Baseball fields. Mr. Nichols contacted Matt Robinson and he did not approve the purchase of the third scoreboard.

Mr. Garr went ahead and ordered the third scoreboard because it was cheaper to order all three scoreboards at once. He is speaking with NW Electric and the Veterans Home about donating the funds for the scoreboard.

Basketball Goal

Mr. Garr reported that the basketball goal near the Middle School has a vertical crack. The Parks Department welded the crack and determined that the goal is structurally sound. The crack was mostly a cosmetic issue.

Band Storage Unit

The Cameron Municipal Band storage unit has been built and is being used.

Old Business

None

New Business

Park Board Appointments

Officers

During the June meeting, Chairman Gimson stated that the Board needs to officially nominate and vote officers to the Board.

Mr. Teegarden made a motion to nominate Bill Gimson to serve as president; seconded by Ms. Briggs. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 5, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 3.

New Appointment

With the resignation of Rob Balliett, there is an opening on the Board. Advertisements were run in the Cameron Newspaper and two applications were received by the City: Richard Whalen and Carrie Sybert.

Chairman Gimson stated that he would abstain from the vote because he has a business relationship with one of the applicants.

Mr. Teegarden made a motion to appoint Carrie Sybert to the Park Board; seconded by Mr. Jones. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 4, nays – 0, abstentions – 1, absent – 3.

Mr. Jones asked if anything was sent to Rob Balliett thanking him for his service on the Park Board.

Chairman Gimson stated that nothing had been sent yet but he will contact City Manager Mark Gaugh and send Mr. Balliett a letter of thanks.

Miscellaneous

Gazebo Park

Mr. Teegarden stated that at a prior meeting, it was decided to rename Gazebo Park to *Marge McDonald Park* and he would like to go ahead and place a sign at the park and have a small dedication ceremony as previously discussed.

Mr. Jones asked about placing a memorial bench at the park instead of a sign as an idea.

Mr. Garr stated that a memorial bench would cost approximately \$1,000.

Mr. Teegarden would like to talk to Mr. Bontrager and see what can be done about officially renaming the park and performing a small dedication ceremony.

Park Signage

Mr. Garr expressed that signage that the Parks needs to be updated. A possible discussion should be held to discuss replacing the signs.

Mr. Jones stated that it would be beneficial to replace the signs all at once to keep the cost down.

Chairman Gimson stated that cleaning up the Park names should also be done and research the official names of the parks and clean up the boundary lines at the same time.

Mr. Garr will look into some sign options for the Board to look at during the July meeting.

Old Band Shell

Mr. Teegarden talked to the family of Dr. Bob Compton about moving the plaque at the Old Band Shelter located by the swimming pool out to the hospital. The family agreed that the plaque could be moved so something can be done with the building to clean it up.

Adjourn

Chairman Gimson entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Teegarden. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 5, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 3.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park Board will be 6:00pm on July 25, 2013 at City Hall.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:24 pm.

*Chris O'Donnell
Secretary Recorder
Cameron, MO 64429*

*Bill Gimson
8/1/13*