

The July 20, 2023 meeting of the Glenwood Park Board was called to order by Chairman Randy Romens.

Roll Call: Randy Romens, Vanessa Covington, Jim Henderson, Assistant Park Superintendent Devin Tadin.

Motion by Covington, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Henderson to approve the agenda, claims, and minutes of the June 15, 2023 meeting. Ayes 3, Nays 0.

Visitor Steve Hunt of the Glenwood Museum addressed the board. First, he asked when new lights would be installed in the parking lot area. He stated that he had made this request a few months ago and nothing had been done. Romens said he does remember the lights getting approved and we will ask Mattox to take care of it when he returns to work. Then Hunt stated that we need to tell the city road crews to take care of the parking lot in the winter. He says that it makes no sense that they drive right by and can't take a few extra minutes to pull into our lot and salt/sand when it is slick. Hunt stated that they had an evening event last winter and by the end the people could barely get to their vehicles because it was so slick. Covington stated that their priority is likely the streets, especially in the evenings. Also, storms can be unpredictable and come quickly. Hunt said he didn't care. The museum is the top tourist attraction in Glenwood and brings in revenue and the street department needs to take care of it. Romens stated that we can try to talk to them to see what can be done.

Our campground host, Mike Krueger, joined the meeting. He said that things were going well at the park. He does have some possible suggestions for the future and stated that he would be willing to provide us with a report at the end of the season. His main reason for attending the meeting was to request some time off to visit family. He stated that it is very difficult to go anywhere when you are the campground host, and he hadn't really thought about that when he started. Covington stated that it isn't something we had really talked about either. He said that he would like to have the couple in site 3 be the "substitute" hosts for a week each month. He could train them, hand the phone over to them, etc. He suggested that they could then get a \$100/month discount on their campsite. The board agreed that it seems reasonable for the host to get some time off, but we will need to discuss this request with Farnan.

Michelle Wright from the Kiwanis Club joined the meeting. The Kiwanis continue to work on securing funding for the Hiley Park project. Wright said they are currently working on a REAP grant through the DNR. This grant requires support from both the county and the city. She is here to ask for support from the park board. Motion by Covington, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Henderson stating that the Glenwood Park Board has reviewed this project proposal and fully supports the submittal for the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) grant. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Covington will also draft a letter of support for the grant.

Covington provided an update on the Disc Golf proposal. She attended the City Council meeting on June 27. Romens and McCue were also present. Covington stated that the City Council didn't have a lot to say about the project. There was a question raised regarding the impact to the cross-country course and a question about how much extra maintenance/manpower it would require from the park staff. Covington and Romens both addressed the City Council and told them that at this point we were just asking for permission to move forward with the project. We didn't want to pursue it if we were told no in the future. After some discussion the Council did say we could move forward. Now Covington is wondering what our next steps should be. She stated that she has some good community support and people have reached out to her who are very excited about the project. She wonders if this is the time to go ahead

and officially form a Glenwood Disc Golf Club. She did state that she wasn't sure how the bid process would work. Our initial proposal from Zenith Disc Golf is all-inclusive: course design, signs, equipment, installation, and unique fundraising. She doesn't know how easy it will be to get other bids that are all-inclusive, which is ideal. Covington also wondered if we should go ahead and start the fundraising process, as this is how we hope to pay for the majority of the project. Covington will speak to Farnan regarding how to go about this. Romens mentioned that we will likely need to have a separate planning session moving forward.

Regarding our FY23 budget, Romens stated that we had approximately \$19,000 left unspent. At last month's meeting we thought we had spent everything. Romens said some of the money was tagged for things that had not gotten done. He believes we had approved \$12,000 for tree trimming that has not yet been done. He also feels like some of this money could have been used on ballfield maintenance. Romens will talk to Farnan about a possible budget amendment.

Continuing the discussion on ballfield maintenance, there needs to be some work done with the lights at the city field. Apparently, there is conduit hanging from one, the poles are not stable, and the lights are old and in dire need of replacement. Romens asked Tadin to do some research on exactly what is needed and to come up with some cost estimates.

Sally Prickett from the Glenwood Pickleball Club attended the meeting. Romens has asked that she attend to answer some questions and be a part of discussions for some projects. Romens stated that a few months ago the park board had approved the purchase of a storage building for the pickleball courts, but the City Council had denied the request. Prickett explained to us why they need a building. Currently, the wind barriers, nets, etc. are stored by pickleball club members during the off season. When asked about the equipment Prickett said that many of the purchases have been made by the club, but then they become city property. She also said that the club would really like to purchase a pickleball machine and it would need to be stored on-site. The board is in agreement that we need to purchase a building. As a sidenote, Prickett says that we have some of the best courts in the state and that according to Playtime Scheduler, there were 6000 users this past year. Motion by Covington, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Henderson to recommend to the City Council the purchase of a storage building for a cost of up to \$3000. Ayes 3, Nays 0

Next up for discussion is adding a waterline to the courts. They would love to have restrooms at some point, but just having water for now would be a huge benefit. This would be beneficial for the maintenance of the court surface and in turn increase the lifespan of the court. There have been discussions with Dave Malcolm and with Jamie Clark regarding the feasibility of adding a water line and it can be done. Motion by Henderson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Covington to recommend moving forward with researching water line costs, placement, etc. for the pickleball courts. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Covington thanked Prickett for being at the meeting. She answered questions and gave information that gave a better understanding of the pickleball courts, club, etc. As a final note, Prickett asked about having an official 911 address sign placed at the courts. Covington stated that she believes the blue address signs are for country addresses and not city addresses. Romens said we could still just get a sign made that had the official address on it. He asked Tadin to check on this. Covington stated that we have purchased other signs for the park from Joe Designer.


Regarding the small pond, Tadin said there has been some pooling of water during all this rain. Mattox would like to rent a skid loader and move some of the dirt around a bit more to see if this will help or if

we need to get just a bit more dirt. There are some weeds starting to grow. Romens said that Shaun Koehler has some compost that would be good to layer on top before seeding with grass.

Tadin said he does not know if we have received a report back from the DNR regarding the large lake. He said he did talk to someone about the geese, and they couldn't do anything at this time unless we were still following the geese mitigation plan from a few years ago. Covington stated that she thought that is what we were doing still with the wildflowers and with getting rid of the island. We will need to explore this further.

Superintendent Report – Tadin stated that they have been very busy. Between Mattox being gone, a mower being down, and all the rain, he has had to mow seven days a week. He mentioned that the park host has not been doing a good job of cleaning the restrooms. He said they are very dirty. He said when Mattox gets back, he would ask him to decide how to handle it. Romens said that maybe he needs to “remind” him of exactly what it is that is expected when it comes to cleaning the restrooms. Next, Tadin said there have been some smaller tree branches falling on to campers. So far, no damage has been done. He has been in contact with Konfrst and they are meeting him later today to see what can be done about trimming those trees. Covington mentioned that while Konfrst is there maybe Tadin can ask about the other tree trimming/removal that was going to be done. Tadin said they had seven loads of rock delivered to the old campground and more will likely be needed after the camping season is over. There is a water leak at the City field. There is no visual evidence indicating the location of the leak. Stouder is coming to take a look and see if he can locate it. Regarding the new fishing dock, Tadin said he picked it up from Menards, but it was only a frame and not what was supposedly ordered. Again, Mattox will look into this when he returns. We paid Menards \$3976.51 and definitely did not get what we paid for. The biggest issue at the park right now is that one of the mowers broke down. It is the 2018 Bad Boy mower. Uphoff has taken a look at it and the estimate for repairs is almost \$4500. Uphoff stated that the price of repairs exceeds the value of the mower. He also said it would likely be four weeks before the parts would arrive, and the mower could be repaired. Uphoff submitted bids for two separate mowers (one commercial and one general use). We also received a bid from LDI. Tadin said that he had not heard anything back from John Deere. The board discussed the bids. The bid for the 72” commercial grade mower is not even \$2000 more than the general use mower. The board agrees that it would make sense to have the commercial grade mower. Tadin mentioned that we already have one Scag 61” mower and it would be nice to stay with the same brand and have the benefit of it being local for parts, repairs, etc. The board agreed that there really isn't much we can do other than to move forward with the purchase of a new mower. Motion by Covington, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Henderson to purchase the Scag Turf Tiger 72” mower from Uphoff for \$15,039.20. Ayes 3, Nays 0. On a side note, Tadin said that Uphoff mentioned being able to do fleet purchases of mowers. Covington said she thinks this is something we need to look into to see how much money it could save us in the long run. Tadin will ask Uphoff for more information and pass it on to Farnan.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42.

  
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Vanessa Covington, Secretary

  
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Randy Romens, Chairperson