



**Bentonville Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, May 6, 2019 – 5:00 pm
Downtown Activities Center
215 SW A Street**

Agenda

Old Business

1. Approval of Minutes from April Meeting

New Business

1. Rotary Project for Orchards Park
2. Soccer Survey

Other Business

Attachments:

Upcoming Events

April 2019 PRAB Minutes

2019 Capital Improvement Worksheet – May 2019

Soccer Survey Reports



Bentonville Parks and Recreation

2019 Events

May 2, 2019	Dance Classes Session 5 Starts - Bentonville Community Center
May 3, 2019	First Friday Flicks (Star Wars) - Lawrence Plaza
May 3-5, 2019	Golden Glove Baseball Tournament - Memorial, Phillips Park
May 3, 2019	Healthy for Life Potluck - Bentonville Community Center
May 4, 2019	Yoga in the Park - Orchards Park
May 4, 2019	Babysitting Class Session 3 - Bentonville Community Center
May 7, 2019	Swim Lesson Session 5 Starts - Bentonville Community Center
May 17, 2019	Wild Pitch Softball Tournament - Memorial Park
May 18, 2019	Square 2 Square - Lawrence Plaza
May 19, 2019	Lawrence Plaza Fountains Opens - Lawrence Plaza
May 22, 2019	Healthy Living Series Coffee - Bentonville Community Center
May 23, 2019	In the Park (Magic in the Park) - Lawrence Plaza
May 25, 2019	Melvin Ford Aquatic Center Opens - Melvin Ford Aquatic Center
May 30, 2019	In the Park (Yappy Hour) - Bentonville Bark Park
May 31, 2019	Glow Run - Memorial Park
June 1, 2019	Babysitting Class Session 3 - Bentonville Community Center



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday, April 1, 2019
Meeting Called to Order: 5:07 p.m.
Meeting Adjourned: 6:19 p.m.
Meeting Location: Bentonville Community Center – 1101 SW Citizens Circle
Attending Board Members: Chris Sooter Mike Power Courtney Carlson
Justin Hudley Steven George Craig Gilbert
Whitney Sutherland
Attending Staff Members: David Wright Lee Farmer Crant Osborne Tracy Acosta
Other: Aubrey Patterson, Newspaper Representative and Photographer

Old Business

Approval of March 4, 2019 Minutes

Motion to Approve by: Courtney Carlson
Seconded the Motion: Mike Power

New Business

Citizens Park Walking Tour

The committee members met at the newly constructed Tennis Complex near the Bentonville Community Center. The members were very impressed with the construction of the tennis courts and surrounding area. There was discussion about possible vending machines for tennis balls and small supplies for tennis or pickle ball.

Tennis – Crant Osborne

Tennis complex adds eight new courts
22 total tennis courts in Bentonville
Pickle ball lines will be marked on new courts
Lights controlled by patrons in one hour increments - lights will not affect surrounding residents
Restrooms / Storage Area
Picnic Tables
Player Benches
Bleachers for Spectators
The operation of these tennis courts is not connected to the Bentonville Community Center.
Kids Center located in the Community Center is not for tennis players to use when playing tennis
Signage for court use will be attached to building
We offer the largest junior tennis program in the state of Arkansas
Bentonville Parks and Recreation contracts Ozark Tennis Academy to oversee the tennis programs

Aquatic – Josh Stacey

Sound panels ordered - \$90K project
Pool Party Room – Five time slots are available 3 time slots on Saturday – 1 on Friday and 1 on Sunday
NWA Aquatics – Sharks have approximately 300 swimmers
We provided about 700 swim lessons each month
130 students participate in group swim lessons each month
500-600 private swim lessons are taught each month
Barracudas Swim Program consists of approximately 80 students in a recreation type program
Masters Swim-recreational adult swim team-consisting of approximately 50 swimmers utilizes the facility
We have adjusted hours of the pool to accommodate lap swimming
Special Aquatic Programming – Aqua Egg Hunt – Members only event – 100 members attending
Glow Swim – Members only event – selling out each event
Host State High School swim meets for 4th year
Host State Dive meets
We certify life guards in this facility as well as re-certifications
Biggest challenge is space at this point
Deck space is a big challenge as well – this is a *user friendly* facility not the best *spectator* facility
Great need for lap / lane swimming
We are in a good place with staffing right now

Inclusive Play Ground – David Wright

Design work is almost complete

Multiple slides – slides are wider for two people to use at same time

Multiple ramps for access

Chairs are “chill out zones” for autistic children

Committee members would like to see more swings–price per square foot grows about \$40K to add more swing

All ages and skills levels will be able to use this playground

Ages 2-5 skill level area as well as ages 5-12 skill level area

Zip line is the #1 request for this playground

Ground surface will accommodate wheelchairs

Inclusive playground is twice the size of Dave Peel Park – Re-surfacing Dave Peel Park is approximately \$94K

Playground will include fencing made of – faux wrought iron

Benches will be placed throughout the playground

Signage will be posted for use of the play area

Expecting June/July 2019 ground breaking

Soccer – Lee Farmer

Approximately 300 U5 boys practicing in program

Little Kicksters (3 yr. olds) start next week – Program is contracted out

We manage the largest soccer program in the state

We have not seen a significant drop in participation due to resident/non-resident fees

Have not seen a drop in membership due to resident/non-resident

Turf management of fields is minimal due to the age of the children using the fields

Other Business

Bella Vista Lake

David Wright will prepare a memo to Mayor Orman regarding Motion authorizing City Attorney to pursue Quiet Title and Declaratory Judgment Action for the Bella Vista Lake Property. Updates will be given as they become available.

Project	Budget	Status
FY - 2017 Rollover Projects		
North Bentonville Trail - Creek Stabilization	\$115,000	Project Complete
Razorback Greenway ReRoute - Design and ROW	\$440,000	30% Drawings submitted - Under review by Planning / Engineering / AHTD
McCullough Street Sidepath Trail	\$600,000	30% Drawings submitted - Under review by Planning / Engineering / AHTD
FY 2018 Projects		
Citizens Park Tennis Courts	\$1,300,000	Project Complete
Old Tiger - Restroom Installation	\$55,000	
Lake Bella Vista - Restroom Facility	\$60,000	
Lake Bella Vista - Parking Lot / Trail Connection	\$1,062,000	Project in design - Ecological Design Group
RRG Eco - Counter Display Board	\$35,000	Project in design - Morrison Shipley
RRG - RRFB, Signs and Striping on 21st Street	\$34,500	Project Underway - 0% Complete
RRG - Moberly Trail Connection w/ HAWK Crossing	\$126,500	Project Underway - 0% Complete
RRG - North Trail - Cub / Tiger Parking Lot	\$287,500	Project Underway - 90% Complete
RRG - North Trail - Alignment / Jersey Barrier Cut	\$18,800	Project Complete

Bella Vista Lake Plan			Parks Board Approval - Council Approval
Project	Budget	Status	
Grant Funded Projects - Not administered by BPR			
3rd Street - 8th Street Trail (Applegate Trail)			Project Complete - Opening Spring 2019
<i>Lake Bentonville Improvements</i>			<i>Construction Underway - 0% Complete</i>
Project	Budget	Status	
FY 2019 Projects			
Trails Wayfinding Signage - Phase II	\$20,000		Signs Ordered
Park Rules Signage	\$22,000		Design in Process
Downtown Parks - Quilt of Parks Master Plan	\$453,000		In process of selecting design firm. Project to begin June 1
Bentonville Bike / Pedestrian Plan	\$194,000		Project Underway - 0% Complete
Dave Peel Playground - Tile Repair	\$100,000		Project Complete
Auto Gates - BPR Maintenance Shop	\$15,000		Work begins May
Citizens Park - Inclusive Playground	\$375,000		Design In Process - Expected late summer construction
Memorial Park - Backstop Installation	\$12,000		Project Complete

Memorial Park - Tennis Courts Resurface	\$20,000	
Memorial Park - Ballfield Astro turf Project	\$850,000	
Project	Budget	Status
Memorial Park - Soccer Field Renovation	\$15,000	
Phillips Park - F1 Scorebooth Removal	\$10,000	Project Complete
Phillips Park - F1, F2, F3 - Renovations	\$60,000	
Orchards Park - East Berm Stone Work	\$7,000	Project Complete
MFAC - Diving Platforms	\$30,000	Installation in May
Lawrence Plaza - Fiber Installation	\$20,000	Project Underway - 30% Complete
Lawrence Plaza - Fountain Retrofit	\$20,000	Project Complete
Downtown Square - LED Building Lights Installation	\$75,000	
BCC - Aquatic Sound Panels	\$90,000	Bid Opening - February 6
Grant Funded / Partnership Projects		
All American Plaza / 3rd Street Crossing		Project Complete
All American Trail Extension to BVL		

Arkansas / Missouri Trail Extension		Connection to Rogers Trail System behind Sam's Club
NW A Street / Slaughter Pen Parking Lot		South of Medical Center
Slaughter Pen Improvements		



2019 Soccer Questionnaire Results

Total of 908 Surveys Sent out

152 Surveys Completed

17% Return Rate

551 Emails Opened

62% Open Rate

Question 1: My child plays in the selected division:

Lil' Kicksters	– 17 (11%)
Under 5	– 29 (19%)
Under 6	– 48 (32%)
Under 7	– 39 (26%)
Under 8	– 45 (30%)

Comment: the percentages add up to ___%. This is due to parents having multiple children in the program and selecting multiple age groups, per survey.

Question 2: Do you prefer to have a choice of which park your child's soccer games and practices will occur?

Yes	– 124 (82%)
No	– 28 (18%)

Question 3: If given the choice to select the desired location, I would select:

Memorial Park	– 84 (55%)
Citizens Park	– 66 (44%)
No Response	– 2 (1%)

Question 4: Please list any comments or suggestions you might have about this here:

Comment: Having the option to play at Memorial Park would shorten our drive time by (without traffic) 10 minutes, one way. Thank you for considering this option!

Comment: Citizens is closer to our home, but our big issue is our older kids both play Bentonville rec soccer as well. They play Saturdays at Memorial Park (Girls 12/ boy Fulbright Green). So with them at different parks on Saturday, we often have to pick one to miss. So for us, the important part is picking a park based on where our other kids play for now.

Comment: Would it be possible to have a tryout system in order to make sure that the teams are more even once they're in tournament age? There are frequently uneven match-ups. I know that baseball does this, and they seem to have more even teams as a result.

Comment: As long as my children on different teams can play at the same park, it doesn't matter much to me.

Comment: I have kids of different ages. Playing at the same location would be awesome rather than switching parks same day. Thanks

Comment: Aren't memorial and citizens almost the same thing? What about Bentonville Community Center soccer fields

Comment: Being able to choose the park would be the best change ever. :) Thanks for considering this change.

Comment: Would love flexibility in picking the nights we practice. A lot of kids are playing soccer and t-ball. Once teams are set, the coach and the parents can come to agreement on which night works best for all.

Comment: We have loved soccer this year

Comment: Where we currently play is currently the most convenient to my home. Getting in and out of the tight parking lot is a different story though.

Comment: I like Citizens Park, but Memorial is closer to our house. It will get more difficult for us next year having one at citizens and one at memorial

Comment: Would like to receive notification via email/text of weather conditions and cancellations. Would like to receive email notifications to register for next season

Comment: I currently have one playing at memorial and the other at citizens at the exact same time, more than once this season one has had to skip a game or practice as sometimes we aren't both able to get off in time. Plus Citizens Park is quite far from us.

Comment: The possibility of choosing the location for practice and games is great. As stated in the email we struggle to leave work, pick up kids and get them to practice. Driving across town doing rush hour would make the experience more problematic.
GREAT THINKING!

Comment: Near to home, like the environment

Comment: We live in North Bentonville. It is so difficult to get over to Citizen's park at that time of day. We also have another child who attends soccer practice in Sugar Creek... so making it work for both logistically is near impossible. A move to Memorial would make a huge difference for us.

Comment: Put porta-potties by the upper fields.

Comment: This is our first experience with city league soccer and I have been impressed with the organization. I love that there is one scheduled for practice and games that is universal. It makes it very clear and concise. I would prefer Citizens over Memorial but it is not a deal breaker for participating. Thanks for making it great!

Comment: The coach to kid ratio is really bad, there are 20+ kids in the class and only 2 coaches with an assistant or 2. They also keep all the kids on 1 field which keeps them standing in lines longer and no room to dribble.

Comment: I think you do a nice job. Getting to BCC by 6 PM some days is a challenge for us, but just due to location. I like Memorial park better. I also like how games on Saturdays are spread out by 30 minutes to allow us to get from one place to another as we have 3 kids playing soccer and t ball and have a tough time when games are at the same time.

Comment: Great program

Comment: Every year baseball and soccer collide and it seems majority of the kids in the soccer league play baseball as a second sport opposed to other sports. It would be nice if yall coordinated practice times with the baseball league that way kids could enjoy both leagues without picking which sport they are going to skip that day due to conflicting time

Comment: Citizens Park is closer to my home so I do not have a problem with getting there.

Comment: I would love the option of selecting which park so all of my kids could play at the same place. I would also love to have two options for nights of the week. With two divisions for the younger age groups, would it be possible to have one at Citizens one night and another at Memorial a different night? Please drop or reduce the non-resident fees.

Comment: The hardest is when siblings are playing w separate parks without adequate time to get there, so that is my priority.

Comment: Please, give us the choice to keep the team together every year. The teams will benefit and each coach won't have to start from zero because that's what happened every fall.

Comment: More practice days

Comment: For families with older siblings playing at Memorial Park, having the younger sibling also play at Memorial Park is ideal--having parents split time between parks is awful (and impossible for single parents). I like the idea of letting parents choose--for those with multiple kids in soccer, being at the same location makes sense.

Comment: This is different, but think that having goalies at the u8 age group and a referee would be great! Thank you, your program is awesome!

Comment: We have 3 kids playing soccer and a 4th that will start soon. It's impossible to get everyone to their games on time on Saturdays. We start at Memorial, race across town to Citizens and then back to Memorial where I'm coaching. I'd like week days to be practices and Saturdays games. I'm not sure the kids are learning technique just playing

Comment: Our team was scheduled for 3 late night games/practices and 2 noon time games/practices, meanwhile there are teams that never have to play late. Lame! Glad I live in Bella Vista because that +\$30 charge you're going to ding us with just made it real simple. We're not signing up with Bentonville Parks and Rec going forward.

Comment: I would be more interested in picking a park at a younger age because we have a second boy starting soccer in the fall and will have to be at both locations.

Comment: Memorial Park is right by my work and closer to home. It would be very difficult for us to make it to Citizens Park on time.

Comment: That will be a big improvement for us. We prefer Citizens Park because it's closer to our house. We don't need spend 30+ minutes each way through the rush hours.

Comment: Would be great to offer a discount to coaches children, especially since they are so hard to find and some (including my family) have a Rogers address (Bentonville schools) and now have to pay the extra fees

Comment: U6 should be 4 v 4 not 3v3. This aligns to developmental soccer programs around the country.

Comment: Next year I might have more kids playing. So I would only choose a park if they all could be at the same park. Have you considered breaking up the teams north Bentonville and south Bentonville for all age divisions? Or even just choices for during the week. Then maybe the tournament could be played at memorial park

Comment: I think that kids should stay on the same team each year. My son has a different team every fall season

Comment: Really open to either location but Memorial is typically easier and closer for us.

Comment: Selecting the field we play on would tremendously help for everyone. My only concern is what happens if there is an imbalance of players on one field or the other? Some of these little players can't afford to start any later to accommodate the imbalance if playing times were extended to accommodate such a need.

Comment: Having multiple ages of children who play soccer and living in Bella Vista has made it impossible to attend half of the practices and games, due to how difficult it is to get to Citizens Park by 6pm. We've had to hire a sitter to transport one of our players over to Citizens Park. Having all my kids at the same location would be a game changer!

Comment: The traffic getting to Citizens Park at 6pm is bad. Even though it is a little closer to our house, it actually takes longer to get to than Memorial Park in the evening. Plus Memorial Park has more outdoor amenities to do with the family before/after practice.

Comment: This is good Initiate and I hope more players will enroll this fall if we choose convenient location

Comment: We LOVE that the soccer schedule is set; you always have the same two days a week. It's easy to plan around and add other activities.

Comment: Issue is when you have one kid at Citizen's from 9a-10a, then another kid at Memorial at 1030a. It's IMPOSSIBLE to make it across town. Also, saying during registration that a time slot is from 6p-7p and scheduling at 715p or 1030a is scheduled at noon is disrespectful. Most families have more than 1 kid to manage and they PLAN for these time slots

Comment: It would be better if all weekday practices are actual practices and not games. The kids need more time to learn, not just play games

Comment: Used to play at citizens park and it was impossible to get there and limited ability to coach as well

Comment: The traffic is way better than Citizens Park, whether coming from Rogers or Centerton. Traffic starts picking up when the kids get out and doesn't get better till after 6. Going to Memorial park has been easy going this whole 2 seasons.

Comment: This is our 1st year doing soccer and my daughter has really enjoyed it. We live in Centerton so having practices and games at Citizens during the week has been great for us. It also, has us helped get more familiar with the soccer fields so we're not stressing about which field we're on and if we're at the right place.

Comment: Truthfully, as long as their age groups aren't scheduled at the same time in 2 different locations, we will be ok. Not sure logistically there is a great way to prevent this.

Comment: Great work by volunteer coaches and thank you for bringing out kids to play and meet children from their age groups

Comment: I have kids in different age divisions and having them at one location would be so fabulous! We live close to Memorial Park and with the traffic to citizens it often takes 45 minutes one way. Some years we just couldn't make it work.

Comment: Right now my son is 9 Years old.

Comment: Please use an app like SI app for example to streamline communication. Also feel it would be beneficial to have an evaluation/tryout for the teams for U8 and older

Comment: I love this idea! Hopefully it will be implemented because Memorial is too far to be a commitment for us. We would be changing our city leagues next fall.

Comment: This is an awesome idea! It will be very helpful to have both kids at the same field regardless of age!

Comment: Memorial park is already too congested with the current age groups to allow the younger players to play there.

Comment: This would be SO helpful!! I have 2 more little ones who will be starting soccer within the next 2 years, and not crossing town to get them to practice will be a HUGE help!! It takes us 35 minutes on Tuesdays to get to citizens fields...

Comment: Would be great if group would focus on training the first timers and give detailed insight into the game

Comment: I really have no preference on where we play. 6:00 practice/games are perfect, but 5:00 traffic for a 6:00 practice/game is terrible no matter what park we're at.

Comment: Need more players on each team—we were assigned 5 and we were lucky if 2 or 3 showed for each game. Very frustrating getting there and not having enough players or players playing when hurt because there are no subs. Do an evaluation/better distribution of skills or years played in the players on each team

Comment: Would be so nice for families with multiple soccer players to be able to be at the same fields!

Comment: It is hard get all the way across town.

Comment: I have 2 kids, one Under 5 and another Under 10, so one plays at memorial and one at Phillips, I prefer both to be at Memorial park. Also, are the coaches evaluated? Since my current coach on U10 is not having the skill for coaching. Please have some evaluation criteria though parents take up the coaching.

Comment: We are sadly re-evaluating our ability for continued involvement given the current rate hike for Centerton residents. We love Bentonville soccer and my son has enjoyed it! But even though he attends Bentonville schools and we have no soccer alternative in Centerton, we won't be able to afford the large increase just because we aren't in BV itself.

Comment: My elder son (9 years) goes to memorial park for soccer, it will easy for us to drop & pick up from same location

Comment: I'm in between both parks. It really doesn't matter to me. I think you guys do great with organizing. Keep it up!

Comment: Please consistent children who play multiple sports when generating schedules.

Comment: More space between start/end times because finding parking is sometimes difficult at Memorial.

Comment: I think 7 might be necessary per team because if only 3 or 4 show up, it is a long time at that age without breaks. A hard balance, I know.

Comment: The traffic to get to Citizens Park is insane on weekdays. I have to leave 40 minutes early to be barely on time. Memorial is much better for me.

Comment: No comments

Comment: It works out well for us right now having it at citizens which is close to our house and the kids schools

Comment: This is good. Good Job. This had to be Danny's idea. Danny gets the credit.

Comment: Memorial park is within 3 miles of our home and would be the best location for practices and games! Also, parking and traffic is a better fit for our family to drive to and from home.

Comment: At this stage of development, I'd prefer more focus around fundamentals and how to improve/learn versus games. At this point we've had more games than practices. It's actually ruining the confidence of my daughter and her desire to continue.

Comment: I just prefer to have all my kids in the same place so I'm not running back and forth across town to get to multiple games/practices. Makes no difference to me which field location.

Comment: We live by memorial so it is definitely easier to get there by 6 instead of fighting traffic to get across town by 6. Citizens is great if you live over there but very inconvenient for anyone else.

Comment: Could BP&R structure soccer teams the way the schools do -- by zone? People could select whether they wanted to be on a community center or Memorial team.

Comment: Traffic to the community center is so bad that I don't sign my children up to play soccer until they are old enough to play at Memorial.

Comment: All practices would be held at their chosen location. Younger teams would only play teams who met at the same location. This would mean playing the same team more than once per season, but does it really matter when they are young? Older teams would "travel" which would cut in half the long drives for people who live around the community center.

Comment: I appreciate your committee considering this situation. We have had a great experience with the soccer program.