

MEETING MINUTES
ST. ALBANS CITY PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
Kevin Smith Sports Connection
6:00 PM Monday, August 31st , 2020

Board Members Present:

Members: Joanie McGinn, Jamie Pinkham, Angie Sturm, Bill Doig and Kristen Poston

Board Members Absent: Stina Booth

Public Present:

Staff Present: Andrew Gratton: Recreation Program Manager

AGENDA

1. **Call to order:** Joanie calls meeting to order at 6:06 pm
2. **Public Comment:** none to be heard
3. **Review Letter to Council:** Andrew and Angie will be at the meeting with all members attending if they are able to. Not sure if the meeting will be virtual or in person but Andrew will send out the information and agenda when it is available. Angie will voice the opinions of the parks commission to the best of her ability. Minor changes to the letter to be made. Remove “Andrew insert costs”, unhighlight all the green highlighted pieces.
Bill brought up the idea of sending our minutes to the city council so that they can see what we are doing and what we are trying to accomplish each month.
Where can we make small changes to Taylor Park is the Master plan does not seem like it will be moving forward.
Council meeting is September 14th.
No other changes to the letter to be made. Andrew will submit to the council.
Brief talk about a skate park that has received some private funding. Location and accessibility. Hard’ack, CCV parking lot on South Main Street, lot next to the Co-op on federal street.
Parks Commission members were curious If Hard’ack is in their scope or not.
4. **Parks Concerns (Taylor, Houghton & Barlow):**
Bill brought up the North side of Taylor Park walkways. He had mentioned they were in rough shape in a prior meeting and was wondering if they were taken care of. Andrew had mentioned it to Marty who was going to look into it. Andrew will follow up.
Talk about the paintings on the electrical boxes and how they looked great, but we were not informed about them as well as other goings on in the parks. When people ask Parks Commission members about them they can seem clueless as we are not always informed.
Jaime brought up the idea of memorial benches and trees as people cannot have funerals during this time. It may be a good idea. We will add an additional agenda item to address this and work on an outline for future meetings.

Houghton Park: Andrew installed a new Gaga pit, public works put new wood chips under the features of the playground, new trash/ recycle bin was installed, art walls have been painted and look great.

Barlow: Woods chips installed at the playground. Summer Camp has been ongoing there all summer and has been going well. Jaime mentioned that without the field being used for softball maybe that space would be better used in a different capacity. Skate Park or other ideas?

5. Little Library Location at Barlow:

Angie thought it would be good in the Barlow side north of the Barlow street School sign next to the sidewalk. Concern with plowing in that location.

Upper Welden street side near the back entrance to the Barlow Street school may be better, away from sidewalk for plowing but close enough to the building to keep eyes on it and make it accessible to people using the building and sidewalk.

Mention of calling the Messenger to do an article about the Barlow street one and Houghton Park one for more visibility. Also post on social media.

6. Old business:

None.

7. New Business:

Talk about a social media post with people curious about a splash pad at Houghton Park. Maybe the unused baseball field in the back of the storage building could be better used for a splash pad? Funding?

8. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn made by Joanie at 7:26 pm second by Angie, passed unanimously.

Next meeting Monday the 21st to follow up on what the council said about the letter.