PARAMETER_PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
April 17, 2025

1. **Meeting called to order** by Sam Anderson at 4:00 p.m. at the MAC, Parks and Recreation Administration, 2733 Marilyn Williams Drive, Edmond, Oklahoma. The agenda for this meeting was posted in the City First Administration Building on April 14, 2025, at 10:57 a.m. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members present: Sam Anderson, Taylor Hildenbrand, Gary Bartley, Saundra Naifeh, Earl London, Rick Smith, Gena Money, Chris Anderson (in later), Anthony Rose, and Laura Robertson. Parks and Recreation staff present: Brad Raney, Zach Paty, Frank Hale, and Cheryl Tettleton.
   Absent: Jerel Cowan

2. **Consideration of Approval of Meeting Minutes – March 27, 2025.** Rick Smith motioned to approve the minutes; Gena Money seconded the motion. **Motion carried as follows:**
   AYES: Sam Anderson, Taylor Hildenbrand, Gary Bartley, Saundra Naifeh, Earl London, Rick Smith, Gena Money, Anthony Rose, and Laura Robertson
   NAYS: None

3. **Discussion and Consideration to Recommend Approval of the Draft City of Edmond Resiliency Action Plan.** Due to a mix-up about meeting time, the presenter was not available. The plan focuses on economic and environmental sustainability. The draft plan was included in the packet for review. Contact information for Phil Jones and a copy of his presentation will be forwarded to the board. The item is expected to go to City Council on April 28 but will be added to next month's agenda for an update and discussion.

4. **Updates and Discussion of Parks & Recreation Activity Reports and Projects, including:**
   - **A.C. Caplinger** – Bid package #5 was approved this week. All items are now under contract. Some funds were transferred from the Park Tax Reserves to supplement the budget. The base bid was for shade structures behind home plate only, but a favorable cost allows the inclusion of twenty additional shade structures to be located by first and third bases. There may be one more item for Council related to export and import of soil due to the landfill issues. Gena suggested adding receptacles for recycling water bottles. Zach and Gena will meet about this. Zach mentioned a UCO student who is working on a feasibility project which includes public education on park usage and recycling.
   - **Pelican Bay** – Final plans were received just prior to this meeting, so not yet reviewed, but cost is expected to come in at just over $7 million. Engineering will review the plans, and then the bid should go out soon. The goal is to begin the renovation at the end of the upcoming swim season (after Labor Day). Brad noted that the Myrtha pool liner comes from Italy, so could see impact from national trade negotiations.
   - **Mitch Park Master Plan** – Frank has met with TSW Design to discuss the scope of the project, and they will use that information to determine the cost to create the plan.
   - **E.C. Hafer Park Projects** – The AC Caplinger project eliminated twelve horseshoe pits. Uncommon Ground will include one or two high-end pits, but this won't meet needs for competitions, etc., so Zach will reach out to Freese and Nichols to see about design and cost to replace this amenity.

- **KickingBird Pickleball** – The repair project is underway, but wind and weather are having an impact. The vendor has 90 days to complete the structural repairs, then there are 157 days allotted to install the covering and do other repairs. It may be the end of the year before the project is complete. City staff are working on adding parking for golf staff south of the pickleball facility.
- **Festival Market Place** – The farmers market opened for the season this past weekend with a lot of shoppers and over 70 vendors. Revenues were up in comparison to prior years' opening days. The mayor and city council enjoyed a tour of the market with Emily and Brad.
- **Edmond Trail Projects** – ODOT is expected to bid out the Northwest Connector (Rt. 66 to Spring Creek) in August, then it should take about a year to complete. (Chris Anderson came in at 4:14p.m.) The Creek Bend trail (the one with two cul-de-sacs) may see some progress for connection, as the city has started the eminent domain process to acquire the final easement for the sewer intersect project. The trail is installed over/adjacent to the sewer line. This section is south of 2nd Street between Coltrane and I-35. It runs through a large flood plain, so no development should be nearby, and the setting should be more natural.
- **Conservancy Projects** – Charles Lamb Preserve: The grant has been applied for. A tree survey has been done. Frank, Zach, ELC, and the architect walked the initial trail alignment, which will be adjusted to follow a more natural path. Due to the bank stabilization required for the bridge over the creek, there will need to be a study done to show it won't cause a rise in water depth. Saundra said the dedication ceremony went well, and Charles Lamb's family was pleased. She also appreciated Urban Forestry's involvement in the event and their tree planting event in Hafer that day. Urban Forestry worked with volunteers to plant 27 trees.
- **Liaison Reports** – Sam asked about how/who we contract for water well work and suggested a need to do them sooner rather than later due to how hard it is getting to acquire permitting. She commented that there seemed to be enough funds in golf's reserves, yet they only repaired one of the two water wells that need updating. The Water Resources department would have been the ones coordinating with the contractor, so Brad was not sure what company was used. Zach and Earl thought it could be Layne. Brad will follow up with Brian. Taylor wondered about recent road flooding being related. Brad said he hadn't heard about it and didn't think so.
- **Other updates:**
  - Brad suggested the board consider updating their strategic plan over the next several months. This can be done within the regular meetings and is recommended to be completed by the end of the calendar year to help guide the next fiscal year's priorities.
  - Taylor asked about complaints related to parks and sports partners. Zach reported that complaints about park maintenance were the usual vandalism reports, etc. and all sports partners seem to be hitting their stride, so those complaints have been reduced. Sam suggested the social media posts have had a positive impact and have helped to keep people informed.
  - Saundra mentioned that the extra traffic and aggressive drivers are affecting families using the Miracle League field in Mitch Park. Staff have added things like fences and a gravel parking area to help with the extra traffic (caused by the relocation of baseball/softball during the AC Caplinger renovation). Police have increased their

presence. Board members suggested adding speed bumps like the large ones in some downtown alleys.
- Stephenson Park – No rentals to individuals, still using for public event space only. The history museum made a presentation to the CIP board to request funds to renovate a portion of their building which would include creating a rentable meeting space. This could also fill the need of individuals wanting to host parties adjacent to the park and playground.
- An event to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Murrah bombing was held at Mitch Park today. A portion was held inside the MAC and then finished outdoors at the monument for the eighteen Edmond residents lost that day. Saundra commended Zach and his crew for their beautification efforts at the monument and Emily and Blaze for their help with the event.
- Brad highlighted the park maintenance team's beautification work all over town, including updating the YMCA landscape and improvements to Festival Marketplace with plantings and a retaining wall.
- Saundra serves on the community engagement committee for Uncommon Ground. They have a $92 million fundraising goal and have partnered with various businesses for things like naming opportunities and to run fundraising events – like one night per month at Johnnie's, where you can add a donation to your bill.

5. **Citizen Comments.** None.

6. **Comments from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Chair and Members.** None.

7. **Adjournment.** Earl London motioned for adjournment of the meeting at 4:42 p.m.; Saundra Naifeh seconded the motion. **Motion carried as follows:**
AYES: Sam Anderson, Taylor Hildenbrand, Gary Bartley, Saundra Naifeh, Earl London, Rick Smith, Gena Money, Chris Anderson, Anthony Rose, and Laura Robertson
NAYS: None

Taylor Hildenbrand

Chairperson, Sam Anderson
or Vice Chairman, Taylor Hildenbrand