

The City of Muskogee encourages participation from all citizens in public meetings if participation is not possible due to disability, please notify the City Clerk in writing at least forty-eight hours prior to the scheduled meeting and necessary accommodations will be made. (ADA/36).

AGENDA
SPECIAL CALL PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
FEBRUARY 12, 2025

Official action can only be taken on items which appear on the agenda. The public body may adopt, approve, ratify, deny, defer, recommend, amend, strike, or continue any agenda item.

When more information is needed to act on an item, the public body may refer the matter to Staff or back to Committee or the recommending body.

Under certain circumstances, items are deferred to a specific date or stricken from the agenda entirely.

REGULAR SESSION - 4:00 P.M. - SWIM & FITNESS CENTER, 566 N. 6TH ST., MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA

- 1 Consider approval of the Park & Recreation Advisory Board Minutes of December 11, 2024, or take other necessary action.

- 2 Consider approval of staff recommendation to convert an additional tennis court at Spaulding Park to pickle ball courts, or take other necessary action.

- 3 Consider approval of changes to River Country Water Park policy and implementation of a "No Drop-off Policy" for youth age 15 and younger and increase in pricing for private reservation and party packages, or take other necessary action.

- 4 Receive staff work, progress updates.

 Brooke Hall, Assistant Director

 Rick Ewing, Assistant Director

 Mark Wilkerson, Director

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Special Call Parks & Recreation Board Agenda

1.

Meeting Date: 02/12/2025
Submitted For: Mark Wilkerson, Parks & Recreation
Initiator: Karen Finley, Office Admin II
Department: Parks & Recreation
Staff Information Source:

Information

AGENDA ITEM TITLE:

Consider approval of the Park & Recreation Advisory Board Minutes of December 11, 2024, or take other necessary action.

BACKGROUND:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Attachments

Dec 2024 Minutes

MINUTES

OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CITY OF MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE DECEMBER 11, 2024

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Muskogee, Oklahoma, met at 4:00 p.m. on December 11, 2024, in the Conference Room, Parks and Recreation Office, 837 E. Okmulgee Ave., Muskogee, Oklahoma.

The meeting was called to order and the roll was called as follows:

Present: Shonika Breedlove, Board Member; Amanda Hays, Board Member; Perry Hewitt, Board Member; Linda Stowers, Vice Chair; Joy Sloan, Board Member; Wren Stratton, Board Member

Absent: Jonathan Hawke, Board Member; Kimberli Jaquez, Chair; Traci McGee, Board Member

Staff Mark Wilkerson, Director, Parks & Recreation; Rick Ewing, Assistant Parks Director;

Present: Brooke Hall, Assistant Recreation Director; Karen Finley, Secretary

Attendees: Courtney Graham, Main Street Muskogee Executive Director

- 1 Consider approval of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Minutes of November 13, 2024, or take other necessary action.
Motion made by Board Member Perry Hewitt, seconded by Board Member Shonika Breedlove to approve Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes of the November 11, 2024 meeting.
Carried - Unanimously
- 2 Review possible City of Muskogee Foundation funded projects to City Council for consideration.
Parks and Recreation Director Mark Wilkerson stated that departments have been asked to submit their grant funding ideas for the City of Muskogee Foundation, which are then considered by City Council and submitted to the foundation in the form of a Letter Of Intent (LOI). City Council might submit these requests after the January council meeting. The city will also consider matching certain grants. The

following is a list of LOI ideas submitted for consideration by the Parks Department.

- 1) Six (6) Pickle ball courts at Honor Heights - \$100,000. - Resurfacing some of the tennis courts at Honor Heights Park to create pickle ball courts like what was done at Spaulding would take less money than it would to create new courts at Hatbox or somewhere else. This would be to accommodate the large number of pickle ball users, but due to it's popularity, additional parking would need to be added there as well.
 - 2) Playground Surfacing - Honor Heights Park - \$80,000. - This would be for artificial turf to improve playground surfaces, and doing one or two playgrounds at a time, starting with Honor Heights Park, since it is the most popular. The most recent quote was eighty-thousand dollars (\$80,000). Currently, we spend about fifteen-thousand dollars (\$15,000) a year replenishing wood chips, which is what is currently used. Wood chips tend to move around, creating unsafe conditions. The artificial turf also has a cushion underneath which cushions falls.
 - 3) Hatbox RV Park and Rally Improvements - \$2.5 million (\$200,000 design cost). - City Council has asked the Parks Department to look into what is needed to start attracting and supporting RV rallies at Hatbox Event Park. Proposed amenities to attract rallies would include a restroom building/showers, an indoor meeting room, an event lawn with synthetic turf and lights, and a trail that would connect all the different areas to make it more cohesive and attractive to users. The approximate cost would be about 2.5 million dollars (\$2,500,000). Since the City of Muskogee Foundation could not fund the entire project, the plan would be to seek a planning grant of two hundred thousand (\$200,000), and with a match from the foundation, that would start the process for the planning phase.
 - 4) Rooney Park Redevelopment - \$2 million construction cost (160,000 design cost). - Located where an old softball field once was on Military Dr., north of MLK. A conceptual design was drawn up of possible amenities that could be added to this area which include picnic shelters, sports courts, bike park amenities, an area for a skate spot, restrooms, and a dog park. A trail could loop around, making the connection to the Centennial Trail. The idea would be to start with the planning phase, which would be around one-hundred and sixty-thousand dollars (\$160,000). This might qualify for the max amount of a TSET Grant, which is eighty-thousand (\$80,000).
 - 5) Broadway Streetscape Masterplan (Phase 1 Design cost \$160,000). - Design phase for a Broadway Streetscape Grant of one-hundred sixty-thousand (\$160,000). TSET will fund the design phase of streetscape grants, but the City can only ask for one TSET Grant; either for planning/design, or for construction.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Board Member Wren Stratton, seconded by Board Member Joy Sloan to approve the ideas for City of Muskogee Foundation funded projects to be moved forward to City Council for consideration.
- Carried - Unanimously

Receive a presentation from Main Street Muskogee of the Broadway District Masterplan.

Main Street Muskogee Executive Director Courtney Graham stated that Main Street Muskogee has been working with National Main Street on a master plan for a transformation strategy of Broadway Street and the surrounding area, and came up with the idea of naming districts to unify like other communities have done. Planning Design Group (PDG) did renderings that incorporated the defined goals of what is being called the Broadway District. Defined goals were

- Incorporate decorative overlay in streetscape design
- Propose suitable street trees and landscape
- Maintainable landscape irrigation
- Public murals and interactive art
- District gateway feature at Main Street and Broadway Street
- Decorative street lighting
- Activities for all age groups, especially youth activities
- Incorporate accessibility and ADA parking throughout the district
- Include musical elements and activities
- Designated area for food trucks
- Multi-functional event space
- Outdoor dining areas

Overall area of the Master Plan for the Broadway District includes the following

1. Broadway District Gateway Monument
2. District Signature Intersection
3. Broadway Green Park
4. Broadway District Alley
5. Public Restroom Building
6. Federal Court House
7. Muskogee County Court House
8. Old Severs Hotel
9. Manhattan Apartments
10. Surety Building
11. Roxy Theater

Design elements included in the plan were

1. Broadway Green Lawn area
2. Multi-use shade structure
3. Play Area
4. Fabric shade structure
5. Restroom building
6. Shade & storage structure
7. Broadway Green sign
8. Food truck area
9. Alley signature gateway
10. Metal screen panels
11. Alley dumpster locations
12. Light post & string lights
13. Intersection overhead lighting
14. Brick pavers
15. Mid-block crossing

16. Stone seating
17. 6ft bench
18. Planter pot
19. Landscape bed
20. Angled parking
21. Parallel parking
22. Center turn lane

The plan is to break the project down into three (3) phases, starting with the Green Space, then extending to the rest of the space. The overall estimated cost to complete the project is around eleven million dollars (\$11,000,000).

4 Receive staff work progress updates.

Brooke Hall, Assistant Director

Rose, the Reindeer, and train rides will be at Depot Green over the weekend. I'm meeting with Channel 6 in the morning to do a promotion. Rick also did a podcast with Oklahoma Today to promote Depot Green and the train.

Rick Ewing, Assistant Director

The Garden of Lights, and the tunnel are fantastic this year if anyone hasn't been yet.

Mark Wilkerson, Director

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned @ 5:02 pm.

Linda Stowers, VICE CHAIRPERSON

Muskogee Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Special Call Parks & Recreation Board Agenda

2.

Meeting Date: 02/12/2025
Submitted For: Mark Wilkerson, Parks & Recreation
Initiator: Karen Finley, Office Admin II
Department: Parks & Recreation
Staff Information Source:

Information

AGENDA ITEM TITLE:

Consider approval of staff recommendation to convert an additional tennis court at Spaulding Park to pickle ball courts, or take other necessary action.

BACKGROUND:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Attachments

TSET Community Engagement Report

TSET Pickleball Community Engagement Report 2/5/25

As a part of our application to a TSET Built Environment grant to restructure tennis courts at Honor Heights Park into pickleball courts, Muskogee Parks and Recreation, in collaboration with Neighbors Building Neighborhoods, released an online survey to engage public opinion of the project. This survey was posted in multiple places, but primarily shared on Facebook, and is still available at the time this report is being written.

As of noon on 02/05/2025, the survey has received a total of 181 responses. The survey consists of eight questions: seven multiple choice questions and one open response prompt. The questions, their choices, and the percentages of responses are as follows:

Q1 – How often do you play pickleball?

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|-----|
| a. A few times per year | . | . | 13% |
| b. Once a month | . | . | 3% |
| c. 2+ times a month | . | . | 11% |
| d. Once a week | . | . | 15% |
| e. 2+ times a week | . | . | 36% |
| f. I don't play pickleball | . | . | 21% |

Q2 – Where do you most often play pickleball?

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----|
| a. Spaulding Park, Muskogee | . | 60% |
| b. First Baptist Church, Muskogee | . | 5% |
| c. Outside of Muskogee | . | 14% |
| d. I don't play pickleball | . | 22% |

Q3 – Would you play more often if there were pickleball courts at Honor Heights Park?

- | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|-----|
| a. I would play more often | . | . | . | 61% |
| b. I would not play more often | . | . | . | 31% |
| c. I don't play now, but would at Honor Heights Park | . | . | . | 7% |

Q4 – Is there a need for more pickleball courts in Muskogee?

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----|
| a. Definitely not | . | 13% |
| b. Probably not | . | 7% |
| c. Probably yes | . | 15% |
| d. Definitely yes | . | 65% |

Q5 – How often do you play tennis?

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|-----|
| a. A few times per year | . | . | 16% |
| b. Once a month | . | . | 3% |
| c. 2+ times a month | . | . | 3% |
| d. Once a week | . | . | 2% |
| e. 2+ times a week | . | . | 4% |
| f. I don't play tennis | . | . | 72% |

Q6 – Where do you most often play tennis?

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-----|
| a. Spaulding Park, Muskogee | . | 17% |
| b. Honor Heights Park, Muskogee | . | 6% |
| c. Outside of Muskogee | . | 5% |
| d. I don't play tennis | . | 71% |

Q7 – If some tennis courts were converted to pickleball courts, would it affect how often you play tennis?

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|-----|
| a. It would not affect my play | . | . | . | 80% |
| b. I would play less often | . | . | . | 8% |
| c. I would play the same amount but elsewhere | . | . | . | 11% |
| d. I don't play tennis | . | . | . | 1% |

Q8 – Is there anything else you want to share about pickleball or tennis in Muskogee?

Responses vary; many respondents chose not to fill in this question, many expressed positive opinions about pickleball in Muskogee, a few expressed negative opinions about replacing existing tennis courts with pickleball courts, and many expressed a desire for indoor courts.

Overall, the survey results indicate strong community interest in expanding pickleball facilities in Muskogee. A majority of respondents (61%) stated they would play more often if courts were available at Honor Heights Park, and 65% believe there is a need for more pickleball courts in the city. Conversely, tennis participation appears to be significantly lower, with 72% of respondents indicating they do not play tennis and 80% stating that converting some tennis courts to pickleball courts would not impact their play. While there is some concern about replacing existing tennis courts, the overall response suggests a positive reception to the project, with additional interest in the possibility of indoor courts. These insights indicate a generally positive outlook for the project as planned.