

Special Parks & Recreation Meeting

The meeting is called to order at 4:33 PM, May 28th, 2020 via Zoom by Victoria Hill.

Roll Call:

Present: Glenn Hameister, Felicia Page, Kimberly Nicolai, Victoria Hill, David Secora, and Ashley Nighbor (interim Parks and Rec appointee).

Absent: Jerry Bella

Also Present: City Clerk Jodie Olson, Parks and Recreation Sara Nighbor, Public Works Director Scott Zabel, City Counsel Liaison Joel Brussel, and City Attorney Matt Chier.

Victoria Hill notes for the Parks and Recreation Commission that Charlie Beard has resigned, and in his power as Mayor, Mayor Schramer has appointed Ashley Nighbor to fill his place on the Commission.

**Election of Officers:**

Felicia Page casts a ballot to elect Glenn Hameister as Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Victoria Hill casts a ballot to elect Victoria Hill as Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

*Victoria Hill asks if there are any other nominations. There are none.*

A motion is made by Victoria Hill to seat Kimberly Nikolai in the meeting. The motion is seconded by David Secora. The motion passes.

A voice vote is made for either Glenn Hameister or Victoria Hill as Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Votes for Glenn Hameister: Felicia Page and Ashley Nighbor. Votes for Victoria Hill: Glenn Hameister, Victoria Hill, David Secora, Kimberly Nikolai. Victoria Hill accepts.

Felicia Page casts a ballot to elect Glenn Hameister as Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

*Victoria Hill asks if there are any other nominations. There are none.*

A voice vote is made to elect Glenn Hameister as Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Votes for Glenn Hameister: Felicia Page and Ashley Nighbor, Glenn Hameister, Victoria Hill, David Secora, Kimberly Nikolai. Glenn Hameister accepts.

Felicia Page casts a ballot to elect Ashley Nighbor as Secretary of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

*Victoria Hill asks if there are any other nominations. There are none.*

A voice vote is made to elect Ashley Nighbor of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Votes for Ashley Nighbor: Felicia Page and Ashley Nighbor, Glenn Hameister, Victoria Hill, David Secora, Kimberly Nikolai. Ashley Nighbor accepts.

**General Public Comments:** None

**New Business:**

A) Update from City Staff on current Parks and Recreation Situation for the 2020 season.

Signage will be going up regarding social distancing and utilizing the parks at own-risk. There may be summer classes in August. Adult and child baseball and softball leagues are considering still having a season with modifications.

B ) Berlin Aquatic Center Plan for the 2020 season with discussion and action as appropriate.

Sara Nighbor, Jodie Olson, and Scott Zabel all spoke and answered questions regarding the regulations, costs, and staffing. Of note:

- 1) Cleaning and additional staff requirements
- 2) Touchless payment system recommended (we currently don't have)
- 3) Entry could/would be from many surrounding cities due to the fact that all surrounding cities have closed pools.
- 4) Concern for the safety of the young staff - will people listen to them.
- 5) Department of Health is currently recommending not opening.

David Secora asked if staff would be willing to wait an additional month on their job? Scott Zabel offered that Jason (pool manager) currently has 16 lifeguards and attendants, but no one can say if they will wait around and not work elsewhere.

David Secora asked about the effectiveness of the pool chemicals (chlorine). Scott Zabel responded that the chemicals have been reported to be effective in killing the virus. Sara Nighbor responded that the concern is not those who swim, but those who don't swim, and all the other surfaces touched.

David Secora asked if concessions or supplies would be lost/wasted. Scott Zabel responded that they could hold over to next season.

Victoria Hill asked how long of a turn-around it would take to open the pool. Scott Zabel responded that the pool could be opened with a two-week notice.

Felicia Page asked why the other cities aren't opening their pools.

Jodie Olson responded that the two main reasons are cost and CDC Guideline requirements being too onerous.

David Secora made a motion to postpone the decision to open the pool until the July meeting. Glenn Hameister Seconds.

Felicia Page recommended doing it as a special meeting in two weeks time.

David Secora modified his motion to postpone making a decision on opening the pool until a Special Meeting can be held on June 10th to determine if guidelines have eased up. The modification is seconded by Glenn Hameister.

The motion passes.

**Old Business:**

None

**Adjourn:**

A motion is made at 5:18pm by David Secora to adjourn. Seconded by Felicia Page. The motion passes.

Next Meeting Date - Wednesday, June 3, 2020