



811 E. Centennial Avenue

Muncie, IN. 47303

(765) 747-4858

cityofmuncie.com/parks-department-muncie.htm

muncieparks@cityofmuncie.com

Superintendent: Carl Malone

Muncie Park & Recreation Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 2025
City Hall Auditorium

- (1) Call to Order
- (2) Pledge of Allegiance
- (3) Roll Call
- (4) Approval of the minutes from (February 2025) Park Board Meeting
- (5) Superintendent Report – Carl Malone
- (6) Parks Programming & Approval of Events – Nikki Eckerson
- (7) Prairie Creek Report – Tawny Hall
- (8) Friends of Prairie Creek
- (9) Old Business
 - SecurityPros Update – Sam Sochocki
 - Contract for Prairie Creek Trail Place Holder
 - Recreation Programs – Shannon Powers
 - Board Contract for Summer Program, Tuhey (legal team) and Cardinal Community Swim Club
 - Skate Park signage update
- (10) New Business
- (11) Action Items
- (12) Public Input – (3) minutes limit – Please state your name and address.

*** Next Park Board Meeting – Tuesday, April 15, 2025 (6:00 p.m.) - City Hall Auditorium**



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Superintendent: Carl Malone

Superintendent Report

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

Muncie Parks and Recreation Department has been busy preparing and making repairs for this upcoming park season. We also are making our parks safer by installing and upgrading our current camera system in several parks. We also have been assisting at Prairie Creek with installation of piers. We are still the leading city to host this years' upcoming IPRA State Conference. The conference provides a wide variety of opportunities and networking for professionals across the state.

Prairie Creek

- Replacing and making repairs on all walking board
- We assisted Prairie Creek staff with the recovery of 17 piers that were damaged by weather
- We have also installed several piers

Riverview Park

- Restroom installation will be conducted by Pridemark Construction. We are waiting on the rendering and start date
- I will make an update report at Whitely Neighborhood Association meeting next month

Tuhey Pool

- City of Muncie and Muncie Parks and Recreation Department in conjunction with the Y.M.C.A. will open Tuhey Pool on Memorial Day weekend and close on Labor Day weekend. Buddenbaum & Moore will conduct our reopening.

Westside Park

- Skate park is close to completion
- Opening date is T.B.D.
- Restrooms sewer lines need upgrades and repair work

Thomas Park

- Installation of a new water line and shut-off is needed for the baseball field. When the splash pad was installed the line feeding the field was capped off.

Park Restrooms

- Work has started on pre-opening of all park restrooms

Program Director

- H.R. department has started the hiring process
- We have also stated our Parks seasonal hiring process

If the Parks Board have any questions, please feel free to contact Carl Malone at the park office (765) 747-4858 or cell (765) 749-8490.

Carl Malone
Superintendent
Muncie Parks and Recreation



MUNCIE PARKS PROGRAM REPORT

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

Muncie Teen Internship Program

We hosted a second registration weekend at the Walker Event Center on March 8th and 9th from 10 am – 2 pm for the Muncie Teen Internship Program. Youth who were interested in registering but missed the event at Minnetristra or didn't sign up online came out that weekend to sign up. At the time of closing the application on March 10th we had 148 applicants for the program.

We began calling to schedule interviews for the program on March 10th. DeDee went through the list yesterday and did second calls to those we had not heard back from. Interviews will take place from March 24th to April 4th and once we get through everyone, we will notify those who are accepted into the program via email. They will receive the attendance policy, dress code, information regarding opening their bank account with Thrive for direct deposit and any additional documents which may be required by their site.

NATIONAL KIDS TO THE PARK DAY

National Kids to the Park Day will be held on May 17, 2025 at Canan Commons. We are still in the planning stage but it will be a day of fun with games, bouncy houses and music. We are inviting the community and the Board to come out and enjoy the festivities.

Any vendors interested in participating in the event can email us at muncieparks@muncie.in.gov for more information.

NFL FLAG FOOTBALL

Registration for flag football is ongoing and we have already received a great response. We are going to have 120 players in the program. This is our third year partnering with the NFL and 3rd and 11 to offer flag football at Ball Corp. We are still accepting applications for the program for youth in K – 6th grades.

Any local businesses or organizations interested in sponsoring a team can email us at muncieparks@muncie.in.gov for more information or call the office.

SUMMER SPORTS PROGRAMMING

We are currently working on finalizing our sports programming for the summer.

Muncie Park & Recreation Board Meeting

March 18, 2025 6 p.m.

City Hall Auditorium

1. CALL TO ORDER- Brad Marshall called meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – All stood for the Pledge

3. ROLL CALL- Present were Brad Marshall, Shannon Powers, James Lutton and Chandra Parks. Mark Earvin was a late arrival due to a scheduling conflict.

4. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY BOARD MINUTES-

James Lutton motioned for the approval of the February minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Chandra Parks.

Vote was taken by all Board members present. Motion carries. Motion approved by all members present.

5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Carl Malone, Superintendent

The staff has been busy with things that happen after the weather, such as moving branches, broken down limbs, making repairs, things of that nature, it's keeping us pretty busy.

We are also trying to make our parks safer by installing and/or upgrading our camera system and we have been assisting out at Prairie Creek with installation repairs.

We are still the leading city host for this year's IPRA State Conference. The conference provides variety of opportunities and networking for professionals across the state and I find it very helpful. I attended it last year and the previous years and it's a great networking opportunity for the city.

Prairie Creek

We went out shortly two weeks ago and met with the staff to find out what they needed from us as a support team. Once we talked with Prairie Creek staff we began to make things happen by replacing and making repairs on the walk boards. There were quite a few walk boards. They needed some assistance by removing broken boards and refastening existing boards there to make those safe. Once you put those back out, we also recovered 17 piers that were damaged by the weather that had went into the lake and had been there for some time. Then we also installed several piers once we were

able to pull them up with the team and some heavy equipment. We were able to get those repositioned and now we're just waiting on a few minor repairs to those piers, but we should be in good shape. The concern was whether or not we going to be able to make the repairs and have to move individuals, dock holders to a new location but that's not going to be the case. But we also want to keep everybody informed. If something would happen where we wouldn't be able to do up here, they would get a letter. But right now, as we see it, we don't have a problem in that area. That was the big concern before we got a chance to get down in the water and make those adjustments.

Riverview Park

Restroom installation will be conducted by prior market construction. We are waiting on the renderings and a start date. I think we're in the same situation where we're just in a wait and see. Don't have much information at this time. That's about all I have. But as soon as I can get more information then I'll be able to provide update to the board on the timeline for the restrooms at Riverview Park. I'll also give an update to the Whitely Neighborhood Association. I was there last month and I talked with them about specifically about the restrooms at Riverview and as soon as we get a direction of where we're going, I'll go back to the neighborhood association and give them an update.

Tuhey Pool

City of Muncie, Muncie Parks Department in conjunction with the YMCA, will open Tuhey Pool on the Memorial Day weekend and close on Labor Day weekend. Buddenbaum and Moore will conduct our pre-opening as they always have for the years I've been here. They've been our go-to contractor, and so we look forward to making things happen with Buddenbaum and Moore.

Westside Park

Westside Park is close to completion and we're awaiting opening day to be announced. Problem we had there last year, there were a couple issues where our sewer line was backing up there at the restrooms. We had to dig in and make a couple repairs. We think that's something that needs to be looked into, maybe by the City Engineer or some other contractors that tell us how to fix, permanent fix that. We think we got a temporary fix and it could back up this summer and then we'd be right back in the same situation we were in so that's something we've got to look into soon.

Thomas Park

The installation of water lines and a shutoff valve has been in place and it has been installed. I was out there today with our plumber, J-Bird. I took several pictures of the work that was being conducted. What that does, it allows us to have the splash pad, water running in the shutoff valve for when we have to have water to the park itself up by the building to allow for restrooms and things that have to be operational. So before, I think there was a water line that got capped and it didn't allow us to have water to Thomas Park's shelter and that has been corrected.

Park Restrooms

We will have those open in the next couple of days. I talked to our Lead Mechanic and he's going to be getting his Sloan valves and things put back in place. We think the weather is fine enough to go ahead and open those restrooms up as well.

Parks Department

Program director, HR department has started the hiring process and going through the applications that they have and then we are soon to be starting our park seasonal hiring process as well.

That's all I have for our parks. Weather is cooperating and we look forward to getting back out at the Prairie Creek the remainder of this week and continue our work on getting those piers put in.

Shannon asked how many do we still have to put in, and Carl replied he didn't have an accurate count. I know our total is around 300 so total to put in but don't have a real good number exactly. I mean we got quite a few but I don't know if it's 75 or 100. We're just going to continue to push through. We know we're not there yet and so we just want to keep pushing, keep putting them in and hope for good weather. As long as weather is good I think we will be okay. I think Junior is due to leave and be transferred to the Street Department. So, we lose a key player with 30 years plus experience out there who has been a big lead and a big help for many, many years out there at Prairie Creek. But he has since chosen to move on and so we have a couple people out there that are a little bit seasoned, and we just have to pick up the pieces and keep moving forward.

Brad stated to Carl, you talked a little bit about getting the restrooms open in all the parks. Do you have a timeline or a target on that? Is that a couple weeks or in a month? Carl replied it should be by the end of this week as long as we don't have any problems with them. I talked to Chris and he states it is a matter of putting the valves and things back in, turning the water on and troubleshooting for any leaks.

Shannon asked about when the pickle ball nets will go back up and Carl replied they've been replaced at Storer Estates and Halteman Park. We still need to reinstall them at Riverview and Cowing parks by the end of the week.

Shannon asked if Carl plans on keeping the Cooley restroom closed and Carl replied he plans to open them. We talked about that. Sam is here to talk to me about the safety. We talked about it last month as far as our camera system. I think that should allow us to be able to open them and provide some security for us as well. But they've been down for a couple of years. We put money in that building to have those restrooms open along with the slash pad. So, if we have to reduce hours due to the reporting based on vandalism, then we'll address that as needed. But they've been down for two years. I think it is time to open those back up and see how it goes.

Shannon asked about mulching. Carl replied he I went by Westside Park yesterday and saw quite a bit of mulching needed there at Westside quite a bit. I mean you've got major dips in the swing set alone. Some of the parks are okay and some of them are not. Mulch is not cheap. Depending on the cubic feet. The last invoice that we got right around \$7,000 - \$8,000 per month. So normally what we do is go around all the parks, make an inventory, then order a truckload and then try to spread that out throughout our parks. So, in the long run, having a synthetic rubber surface is something we'd like to be able to get eventually, but it's expensive. But then it also saves you when you do the math and add it up over the years. That's just one part of not seven to nine thousand. That's not all 32 parks, that's just the one park. So, you do the math and you can see that long term it is probably better to go that route. But that would be monies that we have to ask for at the beginning of the year to make those repairs in our parks. So, in other words, we have to go to City Council and request those dollars to make those repairs and replace them in our parks.

Brad asked if there were any other questions for Carl and there were none.

8. PARKS PROGRAMMING/EVENTS – Nikki Eckerson, Office Manager

We hosted a second registration weekend at the Walker Event Center on March 8th and 9th from 10 am – 2 pm for the Muncie Teen Internship Program. Youth who were interested in registering but missed the event at Minnetrista or didn't sign up online came out that weekend to sign up. At the time of closing the application on March 10th we had 148 applicants for the program.

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the NFL and 3rd and 11 to offer flag football at Ball Corp. We are still accepting applications for the program for youth in K – 6th grades.

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SUMMER SPORTS PROGRAMMING

We are currently working on finalizing our sports programming for the summer as far as softball, baseball, basketball camp, etc. Once we have that all nailed down we will present that to the board.

PARKS EVENT APPROVALS: Nikki presented one event for Board approval.

Juneteenth Celebration – They thought they had submitted it last year, but it fell through the cracks. It is scheduled for June 14th over at McCulloch Park. They are expecting about 500 people, which is pretty much what they been averaging the past few years. They said as far as security Chief Sloan has agreed to have a Muncie PD assist with that. They are requesting from the Parks Department bleachers, the large stage, the large tent and some of our horses. We do send them an invoice for those items since this is not a collaboration with the Parks Department. Everything else they need they would be getting on their own. They would be ordering their porta pots directly and their additional trash cans directly from Sanitation. It is an all-day event and they also want the cabin but that also goes on the invoice.

Shannon asked where does everyone park and Nikki replied everywhere around McCulloch Park. Some people park on the streets inside, across the street from the park, or just on the street. Some of them park in the parking lots, but they're not like all parked up in the grass or anything like that.

Brad asked we've not had any issues in the past, have we and Nikki replied there have not and that may be in part because there is a police presence that comes through throughout the day. And there's usually a couple that are stationed around. But it's a pretty mellow event. It's all day. There are whole families out there. There's entertainment. They have vendors.

Brad asked if there were any other questions from the Board and there were none.

James presented a motion for approval and Shannon seconded the motion.

Vote was taken by all Board members present. Motion carries. Motion approved by all members present.

Shannon asked if we have a time for National Parks Day and Nikki replied it is from 12 – 4 pm. Brad asked if the National Kids in the Park Day the same as the National Parks Day are those two the same. Nikki replied it's actually National Kids to the Parks Day

but we always did it as National Parks Day. They did or should send over a proclamation to the Mayor to be signed.

Shannon asked will we have a flyer for that event, and Nikki replied we do. Brad added he thinks we got it last month. Shannon asked is it on the city's social media and Nikki replied she had requested it be added to the Facebook page and will check, and then if I don't see it, will send another request.

9. PRAIRIE CREEK REPORT – Kellie McClellan, Working Foreman

Tawny wasn't present so Kellie gave the update to the Board.

We've been working with the Muncie Fire Department on getting some of the docks that were torn up. They're just east of the Sailboat Club. There were 17 of them which would be 34 slips that they left in. I guess they left a lot of the docks in on the South Shore, they said they've done this for the last three years and they haven't really had damage. Well this year they had a lot of damage. What they were going to do is put some buoys around them and move them, and thank goodness the Fire Department decided to do training there. They're helping us by getting out the debris and then they're doing the training also, but I got a message from West Miller is my contact. The very first day they started at the beach and they located decking boards with nails around the swim area. They got all those out. Today they recovered 10 poles, two steel cross members, 26 tires and various other large debris not related to the docks. And they're going to be there again tomorrow and the next day, depending on weather. We're very thankful for that. We didn't have to move anyone. I'm sure they wouldn't have liked that. The Sail Club is donating us their old docks so we'll have, I think some of them might be put together so we're going to be moving their old ones for free to that area and they're also donating a barge. We just have to replace a couple of barrels on them. We're in the process of looking for a pontoon right now and we're trying to stay under \$10,000. We've got about six of them that we found recently that we're going to look at, but I guess in the past they've had a couple of motors that were 40 horsepower. When they push these plastic ones around they've burned up. They wanted something with a little higher horsepower. We really just need a good working platform with a decent motor on it to kind of push these plastic docks around. Some of those were damaged with the ice as well. I guess last year the pontoon they were using broke down before they could get some of the plastic ones moved to a safe cove and tie them up and some of them have broken free and some of them have been damaged. I think they're still going to be under warranty even though I feel like it's probably neglect on our part but I think Deaton said they would still come and try to replace those or fix those and I think it's four of them but one of them was worse than the others. Some of the fingers have broken loose so some might be able to be repaired pretty easily, and we've already put a call into them. They just wanted some photos of the damage and we've already sent that to them. Our guys have been out there, like he said, putting on the decking, and we're in the campground, the northeast part of the campground, and I think we've been doing a pretty good job helping them out. Since it's not mowing time yet, that's why we're out there because once we start mowing it would be more difficult to get out there. We haven't really been that busy at the office

like I thought we would be but I guess the leases are coming along fine. Tawny wasn't feeling well today that's why she's not here.

Kellie asked if there were any questions for her and Shannon asked how is it going with hiring the temporary staff. Kellie replied Tawny's been working with Patty doing that and it's been going well as far as I know. I'm cc'd on the emails so I see where they're hiring people. Mike will be coming back. He's the one that does a little bit of electrical, plumbing and maintenance and he's coming back the 24th. It's the same day Junior transfers. I've tried to talk Junior into staying. He told me he'd think about it but he didn't sound like he really was thinking about it. I hope he changes his mind but I think we'll do well. It's just going to be a learning curve for all of us, and we're just going to have to step up and just do more.

James stated he had a couple questions. One, can we get an update on the dump station and Kellie replied we've met with the water company. I wasn't even aware of this till I started this job, but I found an email stating that if we didn't comply by December of 2024, we could be fined. I'm like, what in the world? So, I messaged the Parks Board and the Mayor because I wanted everybody to know because I didn't know anything about it. And they told us if we were a private business that we would already be in big trouble. But with us being a municipality, they're giving us some slack. But I guess you have to have 60 gallons of wastewater storage per campsite, and that's over 13,000, a capacity of 13,000. We have a 1200-gallon leaking tank currently in the campground. Also, you have to have potable water for the primitive campsites and the cabins. We don't. Two wells were drilled. I guess one didn't take, one did, and I don't know why they didn't finish putting the well in, but we need to put a well in there. Then also the horse camp has to have a small dump site at least 1200 gallons so we need to have one put in there. I've asked, we do a lot of work with J-Bird plumbing because I don't know the whole reason but they used to work for the water company. We've gotten bids before and that's just who we've always used. I think we could get other bids but they're supposed to be giving us some kind of a bid on these things but we probably as high as it will be. We'll probably have to get several. So, we started that process. There was a small grant that Shannon knew about, but I think we passed the deadline. I think that was like March 10th, and we didn't have enough time to get everything together. But there's some things that we need to work on, and the state has been very kind, and Shannon was at that meeting, Carl was at that meeting, and they're willing to work with us. They're kind of tired of people making these false promises or saying you know we'll do this or we'll do that, like they hired an engineering company and drew up all these elaborate plans but then like things have just kind of fallen through the cracks and I don't know why because I wasn't there we just have to move forward and try to do the best we can to comply and do what they want us to do.

James asked is there a plan in place for that, and Kellie replied right now currently there's not. James asked is this going to delay opening of the campground, and Kellie replied she doesn't think so. We just had our first meeting, I think if we make steps forward in progress, I think that the State Department is going to work with us. The guy was really nice. And he's just happy that we're communicating. And I feel like there's not going to be an issue with that. Shannon added the water company would like to have a meeting with Carl, Kellie and The Mayor to discuss the lease because it hasn't been

revised. There hasn't been any major revision. Carl interjected we have a meeting set currently for April 7th, at 8 o'clock in the Mayor's boardroom with all the parties and to discuss concerns from the water company and the City. I'm sure once we come out of that meeting we'll know a little more about where we're at, what direction we need to go and things that they're expecting us to get done and complete it so we can show some improvements and things of that nature. I think there's a new president at the water company and I think he's doing what a new president does when they come in and see the conditions of the reservoir and I'm sure he's heard concerns and complaints from individuals that live out there. So, The Mayor just wants to be in the know as it relates to the City, and so that's why this meeting is scheduled for April 7.

James asked why did we leave those wood piers in the water? Carl replied he doesn't have an answer. Kellie added Junior told her they had a lack of manpower and they thought that it wouldn't hurt. That two years before they didn't have much damage, and it was easier just to fix the damage than to take them all the way out. They did it as a trial thing, they've done it the last three years, it just so happened the ice was really bad this year. And then when the ice receded it took those with them and actually snapped off the welds of the steel, like it didn't just do minor damage, it did severe damage to like 17 of them and some others and some plastics. It was because of lack of manpower; the pontoon broke down and we don't still don't have one right now. They were just trying to save money, save time and so it was like a trial thing but he told me in the past they've always come out for decades and like this is just the last three years they didn't.

Brad asked if there were any other questions for Kelly and James asked are there plenty of spare parts. Kellie replied the Sailboat Club has been very generous and they're giving us a lot of steel poles and deck boards, decking and he told us that it should be enough to replace all those very easily. James said we should have a stockpile right with the floating and Kellie confirmed we have a stockpile left over from the plastic ones were replaced. Shannon asked if those 17 have to all be replaced like right now, and Kellie replied that pieces of them are just laying on the bank right now, and they need to be removed, and we need to put the new ones in, and they said it shouldn't take that long to put them in. So, they have to put 17 back in and that's what the Fire Department is doing out there, pulling in all the debris that could potentially hurt someone during Ironman or at the beach. They were going to put buoys around them and move them to another area and leave that there till summer and I was like we cannot do that. So thankfully I knew some of the firemen from doing tree work and they were kind enough to offer their services.

Brad asked if there were more questions for Kellie and there were none.

No events were presented for approval by the Board.

10. FRIENDS OF PRAIRIE CREEK –Jackie Sciscoe

Jackie stated she believes everybody has a flyer and wasn't sure if Mark got one, but if not, she has one for him. So, we have our agenda for the 2025 season. Our first event will be our opening meeting on April 11th to meet Kellie and go over what the plan is for the year. And then we also have our flyer for the Easter Egg Hunt, which is Saturday,

April 19th. We are moving that over to the main office because the community building was already reserved. So, they're letting us use the office area. They used to do an Easter Egg Hunt over there, the restaurant did. So, there's a big area, a lot of room for people to park and do the Easter Egg Hunt over there. We are in need of donations. We have plenty of eggs because we save the eggs every year. But we need candy, small prizes, things like that. So that is all I have. Do you have any questions about anything else on the flyer?

Brad asked if there were any questions for Jackie and Shannon stated she had one. Last month, there were some folks here affiliated with the Friends of Prairie Creek that were willing to form a committee. Jackie stated they're both here and inquired if she would like them to come up. Shannon replied she wanted, after the meeting, to get your contact information to help organize, maybe a group. But you'd left our last meeting before I had a chance to come over to you. Jackie replied she could get that to Shannon or can email as well. Brad added while we're talking about Prairie Creek, he just wanted to remind everyone there the leases and payments are coming due in 14 days. So, at the end of the month, so make sure those are turned in. If you have any questions call the main office, call the Prairie Creek office, or visit the office during normal hours.

11. OLD BUSINESS –

Brad announced we've got several old business items. We can start working through those. I think the first couple here are Carl related. First, we've got Security Pros update with Carl and Sam. Sam addressed the Board stating he'll keep it relatively short. So last month we discussed two smallish projects. One main one being for the basketball courts at Heekin where the cameras were, I suppose the internet was cut, not the cameras themselves. I spoke in big detail with Carl, mostly to work with the internet provider to get the internet into that building. I suppose it's a shelter nearby that's unused but the two cameras on there are not recommended to keep using. We've got a proposal for effectively two cameras both facing each basketball court and somewhat of the parking section. I've got the proposal for that one along with the one for the Cooley bathrooms as well. So, in the two proposals, I can let you guys know the pricing today if you'd like. The one for the Heekin surveillance, the two cameras there is a little bit less expensive than the Cooley bathrooms access. So, the Cooley bathrooms access is effectively both doors being monitored on a timer. It's one of the main things we do with parks that face vandalism and maintenance issues, either just damage, spray paint, teenagers, crazy people overnight. One of the main reasons is to remove maintenance's need to open and close the doors, evening and morning. Sometimes they forget, sometimes someone calls in, they forget to open a bathroom, et cetera.

Especially at Cooley, if it's been closed for two years, it may be like an expensive solution but it is a good long-term safeguard for both those doors. Yesterday, Carl and I spoke with Nate Sloan, the police chief to kind of get his ideas on both. He had a few long-term camera recommendations at Heekin, mainly to possibly view the baseball diamond nearby long-term because there's concerts there. More or less he kind of approved the initial idea, with maybe some tinkering here and there in the future. But overall, those

are the first two we've got. Carl and I met at Tuhey Pool today to review that location as well. I'm just getting started on the map and scope of work for that one as well. I spoke with Carl on the need we mentioned last month for the services called Virtual Guard, effectively connecting some cameras to a human call center, instead of being like an automated recording. Effectively people can tell it's a robot talking to you if you enter premises overnight instead it's a human calling out and challenging people directly. We could possibly use that at Tuhey Park depending on if the priority is watching the pool or the actual mainstay entrance area to prevent breakings in the future. Carl and I can kind of tinker with what's possible there. I'll keep you guys updated. If we got any other major questions and if you guys would like additional printouts for those proposals I can share more in the future, too. I just had the one big packet today. Brad asked if he had an electronic copy and Sam replied he can email that to you adding he sent one big email with some references at other towns and can probably email both of those to him as well. Brad asked him to email them to Nikki or Carl and they can distribute to the Board. That's the best method.

Sam asked if there were any other questions for him and Shannon asked if he could include in his proposal, maybe some sensor lighting for Tuhey. Sam replied he could as Nate asked about that as well. He added a lot of the cameras have the IR infrared built in. So, depending on how the lighting works, I'm guessing the lights turn off overnight, or 9 o'clock and I think the pool closes at 7. If the lights turn off, there's a couple different ways you can adjust the camera to see in the dark. Simple way to put it. Sam asked Shannon if she likes the idea of having motion lights no matter what, or was it mostly just to let people know that there is a presence, if they come near the premises the lights turn on? There are a couple different ways to tinker with it. Shannon replied personally she thinks if lights go on, that'll deter people immediately. Sam asked are you more specific about the sidewalk up front or inside the pool area and Shannon replied in the pool area because people jump over the fence. Sam inquired how often do they jump over or how frequently? Shannon replied with the current system that we use, that's up and installed, it was used two summers ago and I know we caught people at least twice. Sam asked does the Police Department get called? Shannon stated we didn't have lights that turned on. So, people didn't know they were even on camera. They were just swimming in the dark, having a great time. Sam stated that's a good point. He and Carl were discussing the large lights around the pool. That's a whole separate equation if we can put cameras on those, but that might be another long-term goal. If putting a few lights on the cameras that we're suggesting now isn't a good deterrent, the large light poles surrounding the pool may be good as well. I can see what's possible on the tech side. I don't think it should be too difficult to include motion lights as well. Brad asked if there were any more questions for Sam and there were none.

Brad stated next on the agenda, we've got the contract for the Prairie Creek Trail, Phase Three. We talked a little bit about that last month. I did send some information to the Board regarding that proposal as in advance of it going to the Board of Works for approval it needs to come to our board for approval as well. Right now, one of the things that I personally have reached out for and I'm waiting for feedback on is the understanding from the water company that they are in agreeance and in support of the project. I've not heard any opposition and there's been a lot of conversations, essentially off record, that they want this project and seem to be good. But based on our history and

the challenges that we've had in the contract, I think it'd be better that we had something firm in writing on that. I reached out to Flatland this week, who's running that project and they did not see any concerns with delaying that a month to allow some more time for American Water to get a formal response back to us. I think that's our best course of action but certainly if we have got any discussion we can talk about that some. There were no concerns raised.

Brad stated if not we can move on to the next item which is some recreational programming that Shannon is working on and maybe some maybe grants. Shannon stated there are no grants at this time. She added Carl, Nikki and I are talking about some summer programs at Tuhey, a Learn to Swim program. We don't have the schedule yet but we plan to do another program for 85 to 100 children, a free Learn to Swim program through a State Health Department grant that I received through Ball State University, but we're going to use it in conjunction with the Parks Department. And then an Ultimate Frisbee program at Heekin Park, we're going to run for three months on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, starting at 8 p.m. which we're now working on how we'll handle the registration process and that promotion piece there. And then aquatic programming again, Aqua Zumba at Tuhey twice a week, and water aerobics there as well. Also, some programming at Cannon Commons which will be group exercise in the mornings this summer. We're still deciding on what type of group exercise if that should be line dancing or some sort of aerobic dance class. I've already hired an instructor for that program. And then some other like chair yoga and line dancing in McCulloch Park near the shelters when it warms up. Activities that we can do outside in the parks and all ages will be welcome.

Brad thanked Shannon for the update and asked if there were any questions for regarding those items and there were none.

Next on the agenda, we've got the summer programming, Tuhey and Cardinal Swim Program contracts. I assume that's also talking about the pool management contract with the YMCA and Tuhey. Carl stated that's correct. We have that one and we also have Cardinal Swim Club which I spoke with Shannon briefly about it. We still have got to get that one turned in to Mark and his team and then we also have our summer program between City of Muncie, NAACP and the Parks Department. That has been turned in to Mark as well. Typically, we go through it and then report back to the Board just to make sure everybody's on the same page and I perceive doing the same thing this year. We expect the have the Board involved a lot this year with what we do, in terms of how we move with budgeting, funding, and follow-up invoices and receipts. I just think it'd be good for everybody this year to know what the left hand and right hand is doing. So that's our hope, that's our scope.

Brad asked if there are any questions for Carl on any of this? Shannon asked do we have those numbers from last month in regards to the budget, the estimated budget for 2025 and the YMCA. Carl replied we do and he'll have Nikki email those numbers, what our request is, what the bottom budget is for the total program. We've got it broken down into programming and staffing. And that's all on our paperwork, and we can have that submitted. And we definitely want the support from the Board to have what we're requesting and how that process is working.

Shannon stated the president of Cardinal Swim Club did reach out to me today and had noted that they would like to rent the pool again and would like that contract presented to them sooner rather than later. So that's good news.

Brad asked if there were any other questions for Carl regarding that item and there were none.

Next, we've got the Skate Park signage. Carl stated he went out yesterday and took a look at where we're at with that completion. And there had been some signs posted stating no trespassing as of right now. But there's been people out and about getting in on the track. There was one photo that I got sent to my phone, where a gentleman was on a bike kind of partaking in whatever he wanted to do. And so that's a concern as we have not opened it officially. And once we do, just like any other park, or like the pool, we have a set of rules, signing should be up and in place. Soon to be talking with Adam to try to get some opening dates. So, I know what timeline we're working with to get those signs posted because if the police are called, the first thing they're going to ask is are there any posted signs up. As of right now we have the ones that are out just saying no trespassing. As far as opening hours, closing hours, those type of things, we need to get that posted once we know when we're going to open. We still don't have a date as of right now. I just know we're close to the hard surfacing of the skate park itself. Then there's landscaping and some soft cosmetic stuff that has to have still be done. We definitely want to make sure we got some kind of safety measure in place as it relates to the skate park and the graffiti and artwork and things of that nature.

Brad stated he assumes there's some barriers out there to try to prevent people from getting into the site or is that pretty minimal at this time and Carl replied you can pretty much walk right in. I was there and they have the orange fencing, which is what they require, and I hope people just take heed to the fencing and what's posted. What's posted is no trespassing and that's in and around the park itself and so we just have to work you know as we get closer to have signs up saying what a person can and can't do, because what you don't want is all kind of bicycles, tricycles, skateboards and just a lot of stuff out there and then you have a chaos. Before you know you got an altercation between families on what can be on what surface on that skate park. Brad added I know this isn't the first construction project or that we've had some issues with people coming in before it's complete. We may need to look at future projects that we've got a more robust system as part of the contract that they need to be able to prevent people from entering the work sites and securing those work sites when they're not there. The last thing we want is somebody getting in there and getting hurt. That would be a liability for us and the contractor.

Brad asked if there were any other questions for Carl and there were none.

12. NEW BUSINESS –

Carl stated he has a gentleman here who wanted to come up to introduce himself and to share a little bit of what he'd like to do with some events in our parks this year. Mr. Strong can come up, introduce himself and talk a little bit about what he would like to do.

Mr. Zion Strong introduced himself to the Board as the CEO of a clothing brand called Forever Lasting and he also does a nationwide basketball tournament called Battle of the Brands. I would like to do a summer-long basketball league. I'm pretty much doing a basketball league over at Union Missionary Baptist Church right now. We have a lot of people there. What is stopping us basically is that impact with the what the courts is getting a lot of people there is just not allowing our audience to fully be there. This summer, we want to start off on June 21st and basically do it on each weekend that there's not an event currently going on at the parks. I would like to do it at McCulloch Park. I was previously employed by the Indiana Pacers and I made a lot of connections there. Some of those players want to come down to Muncie as well during the tournament. I just want to help the Muncie honestly. He inquired if there were any questions and Chandra asked will this be run similar to how you're doing it at the church and Mr. Strong replied it pretty much will with the same kind of avenues. Before each game we're going to say a prayer just to speak on the safety and the fun.

Shannon asked what's a snapshot of the schedule look like and Zion replied basically we're going to have one each Saturday and Sunday from around 4 o'clock to 8 p.m. and we'll have all the camera people out there giving Muncie the full exposure within this whole event. Shannon inquired how many teams and Zion replied we're going to stop at 6 to 10 teams. Shannon asked if it is half court or full court games and Zion replied It's going to be full court, 5 on 5 games. Shannon asked if it will be just at McCulloch Park and he replied, yes just at McCulloch Park.

Brad asked what age range are you targeting with the teams there? Zion replied they're going to be collegiate basketball players, high school players, and professional athletes as well. Brad interjected so 15 and up and Zion replied that's correct. Shannon inquired if there will be vendors there, and Zion replied there will be small business vendors, local businesses, and things like that. She further inquired would he be able to supply security and Zion replied Yes, he's currently talking to the sheriff, and handed in his paperwork last week. He's waiting on a response from them. If not that avenue, I'm currently real connected with Robert Scaife and his security business. I look forward to doing some great things with them as well. Shannon further asked if he has insurance and Zion replied, yes, I have insurance. For the organization and he replied yes. She asked if he could provide us some documentation of that and he replied yes.

Carl interjected the Parks Department will partner up and work alongside the City, the organization and also some of the churches and stuff like that. So, we'll make sure it's safe and have all the parties involved and anything that Mr. Strong would need, the parks will try to help provide him with along the way. And I think it's a great opportunity to have an event going on that's organized in structure in our parks. James asked Carl if he is supportive of it and Carl replied yes. Chandra added she thinks it's great. Back in her day, that's what they did. They played basketball. Brad stated he thinks it's a great extension of the programming that we're working on and he's excited to see a young man stepping up and wanting to take the reins. So that's good to see him getting involved. Brad told Zion to work with Carl and Nikki on getting the forms and the dates ironed out and then whatever we can do to help. The individual dates may come through the Board and then whatever we can do to help promote, we want to help you as well.

Brad asked if there were any other questions for Mr. Strong and there were none. Shannon added keep up the good work young man. Marvin thanked the Board for their support.

Brad stated we did kind of jump into new business there, which is great and asked if there was any old business, we need to address before we move on to any other new business.

Brad stated he had one other item to add on new business. He was reached out to this week from the sanitation department. And they're interested in having some discussions on trash service at the parks. They're interested in helping us manage that a little different. Currently we do that with a trash truck that we own with our labor and our overtime to help manage that. They're working up an interlocal agreement to structure that. Don't have all the details yet, but it sounds like they're maybe minimal to no cost to the board for that. Outside of that they may ask that our current vehicle be turned over to them and they will use that for the pickup, but then they would manage the trash service for the in-city parks. We did have some discussion on if they'd be interested in also managing Prairie Creek but I don't think at this time that they want to take that on, but it's certainly discussion that they want to have into the future here.

Shannon asked Carl if he would mind discussing the positives and weaknesses of that agreement, just to give us maybe a larger scope of it. Brad said it sounds like we should have a more formal proposal maybe next month. But he just wanted to get it before the Board that there's some discussion there. Carl replied he doesn't have all the information or details. He and Brad had a conversation today about it and I plan to talk with the Mayor and Adam as well to get a little more information. I know when I started my first year, the city had a trash truck that they used, and they would go through the parks and assist with picking up trash with that particular vehicle went down, and then we started manually toting them up on the trailer. And I think that's one of the reasons why they moved into the direction they did. That was the administration before to purchase a truck that would service the parks. But at some point in time, there was an interlock agreement with sanitation moving throughout the parks and picking up trash. I just don't know what the positives were or the negatives. So, I have to do a little more discussing with Adam and Jason over at the Sanitation and then the Mayor as well.

Brad asked if there are any questions or discussions at this time. I'll try to keep everybody updated with any additional information I receive and hope to see something either next month or the following on that.

Brad asked Carl since we've got you here, one of the things we talked a little bit was the time out at Prairie Creek. I know Kelly's been out there. We've got Tawny that's going to have Medical leave here coming up. Are we in good shape to cover out there? I know some of the Board has had some off-book discussions about if we need additional support out there. He asked Carl how he is feeling about it. Carl replied he and Kelly are trying to talk about that and trying to discuss with HR to see if there's anybody in the pool that may have some need to want to work for the City maybe in a part-time opportunity. When you brought that up we kind of talked a little bit about it, Kellie and I kind of knew some of her health concerns and things that could happen. It was kind of

all sprung on us kind of quick so we're trying to make sure we've got something in place. It's definitely on our radar to try to talk HR to see if there's something there. We don't know all the skill sets of the new lady that just started there in the office. And so, we'll have to discuss that as well. It's better to be prepared than to be off guard and not prepared. What we don't want is to not be able to function with that office. So, we definitely want to make sure that we're able to move forward and continue the services there as well. But we have talked about it and discussed it.

Brad asked if there are any new business items to discuss for the board or questions for Carl and there were none.

Brad stated he received an email from the Halteman Neighborhood Association about an event. I don't know if you've got that or if we need to look at that for next month. I don't know if they copied anybody or where that went to. Nikki replied she hadn't seen it. Carl replied he hadn't seen it either. Brad stated he'll look that up. He thinks they're looking at June 21st. So, I'll make sure we get that sent along and do that on the agenda for next month.

13. ACTION ITEMS

Brad asked if there were any action items or event approvals and there were none.

14. PUBLIC INPUT – Please limit time to 3 minutes.

Brad asked for those signed onto the list for Public Input.

There were no names on the Public Input signup sheet. He added he didn't see any names on the list. He stated he did see some new faces in the crowd and he appreciates that as we're always glad to have people here. He inquired if there were any other comments from the board and there were none.

Chandra presented a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Shannon.

Meeting was adjourned by Brad Marshall, President.

*** Next Park Board meeting is currently scheduled for April 15, 2025 at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium.**