



**East Moline Park Board  
Minutes  
June 15, 2021  
East Moline City Hall Council Chambers**



*Due to variable COVID 19 virus pandemic conditions, this meeting was held both in person and via remote electronic conferencing methods.*

President Brian Stombaugh unable to attend, Almlade called meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**Roll Call:** Present: Ald. Almlade, R. Cervantes, T. Johnson, G. Lowery, M. Spencer, J. Swanson

Absent: B. Rusch\*, Brian Stombaugh\*, \*- called, can't make it.

**Guests:** Candice Ritchie, Blaze Restoration

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to approve minutes of March meeting made by Lowery, seconded by Cervantes, all in favor, motion passed. Motion to approve minutes of May meeting made by Lowery, seconded by Cervantes, all in favor, motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lowery advised this is off month and no new report. Almlade advised an April balance of \$75,943.15. Motion to approve April balance by Cervantes, seconded by Spencer, all in favor, motion passed.

**Reports from Partnering Organizations:** none

**Guests:** Candice Ritchie, In charge of grounds of Black Hawk State Park, but this is outside of DNR business. Her family goes to Empire Park and thought it would be good to update the park with volunteer families from Blaze Restoration and maybe contact Living Lands and Waters if we need more helpers. Wanted to do a walk thru to see what needs repair and updating. Many people use park. Wants EM to be involved and help set up. Almlade noted river overlook needs work. Walk thru would be first step. Plan event end of August or October. Materials obtained fundraisers. Wash your boat/car day. Talked about using last park reviews. Consider this an afternoon project with possible hot dog lunch. Need to find out who can come. Mike and Tavian volunteered for walkthrough along with Candice and Dannette Simon from Blaze Const. Time: next week, evenings. Park Funds available for material if no donations. Candice to contact Spencer for exact date/time.

Spencer said this could be a stepping stone to renew other parks. Swanson suggested doing 2-3 parks a year and get on a cycle to keep costs to minimum. Swanson suggested having meeting at parks. Food trucks at park events to get parks highlighted and possible donations. Lowery thought getting news channels involved would also help. Have two board members go through park together to insure it gets done. Selected Mitchell Park for walkthrough. Spencer and Lowery to review. Cervantes Cervantes wants NE Jacobs park needs help and gets used.

**Old Business**

- 1) **Pickle Ball courts:** Almlade said all funds approved for Mitchell and pushing for completion by end of summer. Swanson asked about press release. Nothing planned yet. Notes presented to Council Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup> and approved by 2/3 majority to fast track. Final cost is \$24,669.00. Expected to be in by late summer. Funds are from Park CIP.

**New Business**

1. **EMLL equipment purchase.** EMLL president Gary Almlade asked board to consider an equipment donation for next year to help meet expenses. Most seemed in favor, to be discussed further when equipment is needed. Almlade said equipment could have dual usage for Park League. Mentions EMLL had first games and season was late starting.
2. **Hopes for Hoops.** Johnson said more info at next meeting. Looking at smaller event. Date later in August. School starts back Aug 11<sup>th</sup>. Swanson suggest not to interfere with school activities. Swanson willing to help out.

With no other business, motion to adjourn meeting made by Spencer, seconded by Johnson, All in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm