

Waterloo Citizens for a Pool

Wednesday, 07.07.2021, Morrison-Talbott Library, 7:00pm – General Assembly Meeting

Attendees

Amy Grandcolas
Celeste Breitwiser
Dawn Rubemeyer
Gina Pfund
Scott Davis

Meeting Minutes

Officer/Committee Reports

1. Amy Grandcolas called the meeting to order. Dawn Rubemeyer made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes, Celeste Breitwiser seconded that motion.
2. President – Kim Ahne resigned his board position and the office of President for Waterloo Citizens for a Pool after the June General Assembly meeting. As his back up officer, Amy Grandcolas will be serving as the acting president until the next officer election in October.
3. Vice President – Nothing to report.
4. Treasurer – Celeste is working on an updated Treasurer's Report, currently our balance is around \$ 30,000.
5. Secretary – Amy has changed passwords for all of WCP's accounts and is working with the remaining officers to provide access.
6. Fundraising – Lyn Ahne also resigned her position on the board in June. Amy, Celeste, and Dawn will be dividing up the required tasks for the 5K to be discussed in old business.

Old Business

1. June Park District Meeting – Amy attended the May Park District meeting on Wednesday 06/09. Commissioners Michael Nolte and Shelby Mathes had received a 3D rendering of the Splash Pad with the themed features from HMG Engineering. Some of those features (barn slide) are included in the budget proposal titled Phase 1, the rest (cornstalks) are not budgeted in yet and would be in Phase 2. The Illinois Dept of Public Health (IDPH) denied HMG's variance request to exclude a shower, so HMG has inquired about an outside shower. The previous estimate from Rain Drop for the farm themed spray features was incorrect and a new estimate will be coming over. The permits are still needed from IDPH before any construction connected to the actual Splash Pad can begin. Currently the IDPH is running 9 months behind. Kevin inquired if the Illinois Dept of Natural Resources would be extending the OSLAD grant spending deadlines due to the IDPH permit delays and they are not. The next quarterly spend report is due in July.
2. 2021 Halfway St. Paddy's Day 5K – Saturday, September 18th – The current WCP officers will work collectively in the areas below. This team will meet again in June to get the event off the ground.
 - a. Logistics (Celeste) – We have our event permit from the city now and have the date reserved with Toolen's Running Start. Celeste is working with them to get the online registration set up. She is also working on approval for the band stand with the county.
 - b. Sponsorships (Dawn) – Dawn has the donation request letters printed and the addressed envelopes ready to go. She will get those mailed out in the next week. We will need all hands-on deck to do follow-up with these local businesses and maximize sponsorship. Scott Davis expressed that he was very comfortable helping with donation follow-up.

- c. Marketing (Amy) – Amy is working on a “halfway” header logo to use for social media and registration flyers and will start posting teasers to get the date in front of people. She will also update the checklist.
3. Feasibility Light – WCP has signed the contract with Westport Pools to begin the light design phase and was able to have an initial meeting with them on June 21st. A collaborative design group was assembled for this meeting to include Park Board Commissioners Michael Nolte and Gina Pfund, along with Jim Hewitt, Celeste, and Amy from WCP. We also inquired if Kermit Constantine could join us as a general member of the community, but he was not available at the time of the meeting.
 - a. Westport came with 3 preliminary designs considering the amenity rankings from the SIUE 2019 survey and a desired budget between \$ 3 and 4 million. There was a consensus on the third option due to the inclusion of a lazy river and having a lower cost, while allowing for additional features to be added if donations allowed. Westport will continue their design work based off of their notes from the group and include the full budget costs required for finishing details i.e., pool deck, shade features, bath house, etc. If we can provide them with the commercial utility rates for Waterloo, they can include an estimate of the annual operating costs. Michael did express concern that the operating costs would not be feasible with the current Park District’s tax income and budget. Amy agreed that could be an issue and we’ll need to look at options for covering the operating expenses at one of the future meetings. If anything will need to go on a ballot the next election is the 2022 primary in June. Michael is pretty sure any ballot measure will need to be submitted 3 months in advance, so we would need to have all of our work done and have that prepared by March at the latest.

New Business

1. Next Steps for a 2022 Ballot Initiative
 - a. Capital Campaign – Amy shared an example of the packet that Marshall, IL sent out to their local businesses and organizations. It was agreed that a similar campaign could potentially be very successful in the Waterloo area. Scott Davis volunteered to help follow up with businesses for this campaign.
 - b. Taxing Options – Amy expressed that they would need to have conversations with municipal lawyers to see what taxing options are available in Illinois, specifically Monroe County/Waterloo. She did reach out to Fred Keck who had previously spoken to Kim, but he was not familiar with sales or use taxing such as what was used to fund the pool project in Mexico, MO. He did provide a contact from northern Illinois that could possibly be more helpful in that regard. Amy has not reached out to that contact yet. Amy also floated the idea of getting a representative from the City involved with the collaborative group based on the sizable budget surplus they run at each year.
2. Open WCP Board & Officer Positions – there are now two board positions open for WCP, as well as the position of President. The next officer election is in October. Amy stated it would also be wise to find individuals to serve as a fundraising and capital campaign chair. Scott Davis inquired into the responsibilities of these positions and expressed interested in being President for WCP. The current board will review and get back to Scott.

Open Comments

None

Action Items

1. Continued 5K work – Amy, Celeste, & Dawn

Upcoming Meetings

General Assembly – August 4th, 7:00 pm, Morrison-Talbott Library, Small Meeting Room

Next Meeting Agenda Items

1. Continued Steps with Park Board & Westport Pools
2. 2021 St. Paddy’s Day 5K