

A regular meeting of the City of Alma Parks Committee was held May 22, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Alma Municipal Building.

Present: Roger Allman, Josh Higbie, Jamie Jerome, and Luke Wright.
Absent: Kim Alonzi, Bill Gorton, Blaine Lafler, and Andi Whitmore.
Also present: Curtis Dancer, and Aeric Ripley.

Alma Finance Director Curtis Dancer called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. A quorum of the Committee was not present.

Dancer noted that since a quorum was not present the meeting would be for discussion only.

Allman suggested consideration of a change in meeting dates or times to help with attendance.

Dancer asked if there were any issues with minutes from the prior meeting. No corrections or changes were suggested.

Dancer turned discussion to the open house schedule for the parks planning process. Discussion followed regarding possible locations, the last day of the current school year, and the new farmers market location. Allman volunteered to set up a booth at the farmers market to gather feedback with citizen surveys. Members agreed on June 17th for the farmers market from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Open houses for public input will be scheduled for the week following the 17th. Dancer and City Manager Aeric Ripley will check availability for banquet rooms at the Library and the Elks Club. The open houses will follow a format similar to that used with the last planning process. Allman noted he will need supplies and surveys for the booth and asked if the QR code would be available for use that day.

Ripley provided an update on vandalism at the new parks restrooms. The majority of the damage is at the Wright Park restrooms, but there is also damage at Euclid Ball Fields. He has asked Public Services and Public Safety to work together to seek proposals for security cameras. Discussion followed about vandalism in the parks. Ripley said a ribbon cutting would be scheduled for the new facilities later in the summer, and he will be seeking grants to help repair the vandalism damage. Jerome asked about installing donor plaques saved from the old playground fence at Wright Park.

Dancer said he will schedule the open houses and send out an email with information. Brief discussion followed about committee member participation in the open houses.

Allman asked if a brief description of each park's location could be added to the survey. Ripley suggested a link could be included for a park map on the city website.

Additional brief discussion followed about repairs to the asphalt at the boat launch.

The group disbanded at 6: 23 p.m.

Sara Anderson, Alma City Clerk

Date of Approval