

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, November 19, 2020, 9:30am

Logan River Golf Course Tournament Room

Present: Ed Stephens, Russ Akina, Dan Blakely, Cody Hansen, Tina Purinton, Jason Pond

Via Zoom Meeting: Laura Sawyer, Tanya Rice, Michael Timmons

Guests: Debbie Harvey, David James

Approval of Minutes:

- Cody made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 17, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Tina seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

Board Business:

- **No meeting in December**
 - Reminder there is no meeting in December; next meeting will be in January 2021.
- **Appointment/Re-Appointment**
 - Laura Sawyer's term expires in December. Frank Schofield has nominated a representative from the Logan City School District.
 - Cody Hansen would like to serve a second term.
 - Council will go over it in December 2nd meeting.
 - Mayor reached out to Laura Sawyer and thanked her personally

Jens Johansen Park:

- Russ went over how Logan City is divided into neighborhood's according to Elementary Schools.
- David James joined this month's P&R Advisory board meeting to express his concerns regarding Dogs in Parks Program at Jens Johansen Park.
- Russ went over current rules, which are posted at the park on a sign.
- David expressed he would like dogs to be able to get a drink from the canal, Russ and Ed let him know canal is **not** Logan City Property.
- Ed Stephens informed Board members that there are some dogs are crossing the canal onto Stevie Kohler's property where she has a small dog.

- David James apologized on behalf of the dog community for the non-responsible residents who are not respecting the program. He expressed how much time and effort has been put into the program and enforcing the rules in order to keep the program running at Jens Johansen.
- He suggested that the department perhaps take complaints anonymously and hand it over to volunteers to work together to address complaints and keep the program running.
- Stevie Koller joined meeting via zoom and expressed concerns about dogs defecating in the canal and in her yard. She would like Logan City to install a fence on the other side of the canal. She expressed her fear of dogs mauling her small shih-tzu or herself.
- She was told dogs are not allowed in the canal at all.
- She does not agree with David's suggestion to keep notes on any dog owners/dogs on her personal time and report back every time she sees an issue.
- David and Stevie discussed other dogs barking aggressively at the park.
- David believes a reporting system would be the best.
- Jason reminded guests that their concerns were heard, and the Board will make a recommendation to Logan City.
- Michael Timmons expressed how clean and beautiful the park looked. He thinks a fence would be a good way to solve the issue.
- Tina was curious if Property Owner ever attended any public meetings regarding dogs in parks program; No.
- Ed and Russ let her know that Property owner stated they were never aware of the program as he purchased his property after program was launched.
- Jason asked if Department knew the number of reports with Animal Control.
- Russ let him know there were only a couple of phoned in complaints and one recorded complaint to animal Control.
- Jason asked if there is a certain number of reports that need to be made before it being officially addressed. Russ said no.
- Tina said that homeowners also need to be aware that when purchasing a property near a City park, they need to remember parks are public and traffic is to be expected.
- Jason asked Board Members if they have any recommendations for the Department.
- Cody said residents must take responsibility and due diligence when purchasing property next to or around a public park.
- Jason suggested making a recommendation to increase patrol.

**** Please see attached email with comments from Alan Hochberg as he could not attend the meeting.**

Covid-19 Updates:

- Rec Center Operations
 - Dan let Board know locker rooms are still closed.
 - Sanitation still taking place daily along with staff taking their temperature.
 - There is a Governor's press conference today that department will listen to.

- Junior Jazz
 - Dan has a plan put together for the program. During recent Oversight committee meeting it was found out that High School will need the gyms on Saturdays, pushing back our Junior Jazz program further into the year.
 - Tina asked if Junior Jazz could be done on weeknights.
 - Logan High Schedule prevents Junior Jazz from using gyms on certain nights making it difficult.
 - It may have to come down to reducing registration numbers as well.
 - Cody suggested using other locations to practice. Russ said it would come with an additional cost.

Update on Aquatic Center:

- Filled the 50-meter pool and lost 40,000 gallons of water
- The camera crew (from Restore Pipes) ran into dirt and other debris when scoping pipes
- Not sure if it is a crack or pipe separation
- They will be back on Monday to continue work.

Update on Sports Complex:

- ?

Parks Superintendent Report

- Staff working on picking up leaves. Restrooms are turned off. Staff has installed over 1000 ft of irrigation at the Sports Complex. With the nice weather, staff can get more done. 1700 South Parking lot project at the Soccer Complex is almost complete. Angels landing playground has been started and staff will do as much as they can. Also working on connecting walkways over at Bridger.
- Tanya asked what the time frame is on taking down nets. Ed let her know nets will not be taken down, the gates will be locked.
- Jason asked if there are plans to open the ice rink this winter. Ed let him know, if whether permits, it will happen.
- Ed let board know that CARES Act grant has funded department with grooming equipment.

Recreation Manager Report:

- Indoor pickleball will be available as soon as gyms can reopen.
- Turkey Burner Aerobics class will still take place in a larger gym in order to social distance.

Open Forum:

- Michael and Tanya got kicked out of the zoom meeting due to time limit. Russ explained what was discussed before they were able to log back on.
- Russ suggested an intermediary step and posting a large sign on the parking lot that states all Dogs in Parks Rules. Michael agrees that is a good idea.
- Jason asked Russ to speak about Rotary Clubs arts proposal for Trapper Park. Jason will forward email to Gloria and she will pass it on to the Board. They meet in January and this will be an item of discussion

Next Meeting: January 21, 2021 at 9:30am

Meeting Adjourned: 10:33 am

Minutes Submitted by: Gloria Chacon



Gloria Chacon <gloria.chacon@loganutah.org>

Alan Hochberg home owner adjacent to Jens Johansen dog park.

1 message

Alan Hochberg <ahhochberg@gmail.com>

Sun, Nov 29, 2020 at 8:49 PM

To: gloria.chacon@loganutah.org, holly.daines@loganutah.org, Russ Akina <russ.akina@loganutah.org>

Hello Gloria, Holly and Russ,

I had attended the Parks Advisory Board zoom meeting on Nov 19, but was unable to activate my microphone so please include these statements.

For the record I would like to state that many occurrences of unknown, larger dogs have come onto my private property directly from from the off leash dog park at Jens Johansen Park.

The first rule of dog parks is that they should be completely fenced so that dogs can not have access to adjacent private properties (cited by Kenneth M. Phillips; Dog Bite Law). The installed signs have not stopped dogs from going into the river at the north boundary of the park. Once the dog is in the river it is 100% out of the control of the dogs owner. My homes address is 784 east and 200 north, Logan and directly on the other side of the river.

Many instances have occurred of large dogs defecating in the river, defecating on my property, coming into my yard, and threatening my girlfriends Shih Tzu. A large dog can easily and quickly do damage to a small dog and the dogs owner. This is private property and this can not be allowed. A fully fenced dog park must be the main requirement of an off leash dog park. The river is the natural destination for the dogs and this is the problem. A river will not stop the dogs but it will stop the dogs owner from being able to control the dog.

I will not be asked to be a monitor of dogs in the dog park and spend my leisure time documenting, photographing or videotaping dogs and then calling a hotline to state my case.

Every home owner is entitled to quiet and peaceful enjoyment of their property. Another obvious side effect of a dog park is non stop loud barking. A dog barks at 80 decibels which is louder than a lawnmower. And to have multiple dogs barking constantly all day is not fair to the large amount of private residences that border this park on all sides.

This loud dog barking then agitates the neighborhood dogs that are adjacent to my home further adding to the inability to have peaceful enjoyment of my property.

An off leash dog park needs to be in a non residential location and needs to be fully fenced! Thank you for your attention to my statements.

Alan Hochberg
435 787 0922

Sent from my iPad