

City of Bessemer Parks and Recreation Commission

2022 Annual Report

The City of Bessemer's Parks and Recreation Commission is comprised of five members who meet monthly on the 1st Thursday at 5:30 pm in the council chambers at City Hall at 411 S Sophie or remotely. A typical meeting consists of review of the previous meetings minutes, public hearings, discussion of articles for training, any new or old business, any communications, and reports from staff regarding development or any programs the City is involved, and finally a call to the public, and member's comments

Parks and Recreation Commissioners Include: Cheryl Olsen, Rob Coleman (council representative), Trevor Jackovich, Eric Longhini, and one vacancy. The commission did not meet as much this year due to staff changes and a lack of quorum. Each meeting started with a discussion of relevant articles to learn more various topics. Each member received training on the roles and responsibilities of commissioners including the open meetings act.

February 3rd, 2022

The board accepted the design presented by North Country Welding for bases for the Little Libraries. They also made a motion to create a brick for North Country Welding. The board accepted the 2022 Meeting Schedule. They brainstormed plans for 2022 including fixing up the parks, resurfacing one of the courts, and applying for another DNR grant in 2023.

April 7th, 2022

The board reviewed the list of people and organizations that have donated to the Trailhead project. They decided to wait to buy lumber for the Gaga Pit. Staff updated the board on the budget and had commissioners sign the volunteer policies and procedures manual.

June 2nd, 2022

The board discussed the installation of the Little Libraries. Staff will determine locations. The board walked through Bluff Valley and discussed their concerns and what they want to see there. Staff informed them that the high schoolers would work on painting and the 90 day workers would install the Little Libraries

October 6th, 2022

The board discussed the Gaga Pits. They discussed having an engineer at the next meeting if the DNR Trust Fund Grant is approved. Discussion was had on other possible grants if this is denied. They discussed the walk through the park in June and what all had been completed. They will revisit the topic in Spring. They discussed potential changes to the park including resurfacing and creating a pickleball court. They asked staff to reach out to Kwik Trip to see if they are interested in donating to the Trailhead project.