



THE DAYBREAKER

July 7th, 2022

Today we had 16 in person and 5 Zoom attendees



This quarter all Happy Bucks will benefit Heartford House Please be very happy to benefit this great organization. Next week we will draw for a new recipient.

Service Opportunities: The Noon Club is collecting canned goods please bring them to our meeting.

We also have an opportunity to help with landscaping on July 16 – please contact Gerard Benner

The Noon Club is having their next quarterly Blood Drive on July 26 – see the email sent out Wednesday, July 6 for the sign-up link

Invocation: Deanna McMillan

VISITORS: Larry Fisher – guest of John Polles

PROGRAM: Jon Miner – Upgrades to Columbian Park

Jon has spoken to us before based on his 21 years of experience with the Lafayette Parks Department. He first reported on the upgrades to Tropicane Cove which were started in 2018 and have changed this waterpark into a regional attraction. With over \$35 M in upgrades this is set to be a benefit to the community for years to come.

He reported that the Penguin Exhibit at Columbian Park Zoo is making progress. The initial opening was set back due to construction

issues and then the tragedy occurred when the group of penguins contracted Avian malaria, which is spread by mosquitoes and is highly



lethal to penguins. Only 3 of the 12 penguins survived and they are now being kept away from the public until a protective environment with mosquito netting can be engineered and completed. The Penguin Cam is still available online and has many watchers. The Park District is also hoping to obtain more penguins for the exhibit.

Loeb Stadium continues to be a success story, having just completed their first concert with America. This was

highly successful with over 2,400 of 2,500 available tickets purchased. The event itself went off well and allowed the Park District to work with the Long Center and learn how to put on these events. Their next big concert is with Justin Moore, a very popular Country singer and will feature a larger stage and the availability to stand in front of the stage to dance with the program. To do this they will need to protect the turf with a product called Omni-Deck, which they are presently renting but are planning to purchase. The Park District was somewhat surprised when Mayor Roswarski announced they will be trying to do 4 of these concerts each year but feel this is

possible. They are also reaching their goal of over 160 total events per year, which is an increase over the old stadium.

Memorial Island has reopened after a dredging project and installation of a new seawall, stage and amphitheater. Their new water filtration system will markedly improve the water quality, allowing visitors to actually see the bottom of the lagoon. They are presently completing new restroom facilities on that side of the park and hope to have these open soon

They plan to soon upgrade the SIA Playground with new updated facilities to replace those that have reached the end of their useable life.

CAT Park is almost finished and will provide for a sports facility for children with special needs. They also hope to soon add a special needs accessible playground area

McCaw Park on the east side is also being upgraded with new Pickle Ball courts, parking and drainage improvements, as well as eventually increasing the restroom facilities available

In answer to questions, he related that they are still working to provide the animals for the carousel. They had to find a new company that makes these and are finding that the process is a slow one. The company has more business than usual as other companies fold but are now down to 1 full-time and 1 part-time painter to replace the previous 5 full-time positions. The hope is they will be able to deliver the hand-painted animals next summer to finish the project.

Thought of the Week: A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go, but ought to be. — *Rosalynn Carter*

Trivia Question for the week: In 1950, Zenith introduced the first TV remote control. What was it called?

Answer from last week's trivia question: What is the only type of bird that can fly backward?

The hummingbird is the only bird that can fly in any direction, including backward. Hummingbirds are some of the smallest birds on Earth. Even

the largest species, the giant hummingbird, is only around 8 inches tall. The smallest species, called the bee hummingbird, is approximately 2 inches tall.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

July 14 - Bob Haan - Hahn Museum

July 21 – (David McGaughey)

July 28 – (Dave Mecklenburg)

August 4 – Karah Rawlings - Wolf Park

August 11 – (Brian Pohlar)

August 18 – Jack Kerman - District Treasurer

August 25 – (John Polles)

September 1 – (Matt Salsbery)

September 8 – (Carl Schwamberger)

September 15 – John Hughey – Long Center and Lafayette Theatre

September 22 – Raquel Lopez – Civic Theater of Greater Lafayette

