

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Friday, September 8, 2017

Members present: Dave Barsness, Dorothy Dybvig, Karry White

Members absent: Tesla Chester, Mary Franklin; Council Liaison Tim Franklin

Staff Present: Administrator Kathy George

Guests: None

Chair Barsness called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Agenda

Sandstone Climbers Fest was given as an addition to the Agenda. **Motion White, second Dybvig, to approve the agenda with the addition. Motion passed 3-0.**

Minutes

Motion White, second Dybvig, to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2017 meeting. Motion passed 3-0.

Continuing Business

- A. Angle Park – The Application for the Purchase of Land has been submitted to BNSF. We are waiting for a response.
- B. Gin Pole – Street & Parks Supervisor Mikrot is getting quotes to repair the base with cast-in-place concrete.
- C. Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail – Mikrot is also getting quotes to repair or replace the City's portion of the trail. Council Member Franklin is a member of the East Central Regional Development Commission (ECRDC) and he has reported the possibility of State funding. Staff will follow up on that.
- D. Hockey & Ice Rink Update – Administrator George spoke with Chris from Blue Lake Plastics out of Sauk Centre about a liner for the hockey rink. He recommended a 100 x 210 liner. He stated that the liner would run up and over the boards, being secured on the outside. These liners weigh about 450 pounds. He sells them to about 400 cities every year. About 70% of his customers plan on replacing the liner every year. It is possible to use them again – maybe getting 2 years out of a liner. The process involves pumping out the water at the end of the season, drying the liner, and rolling it for storage. You typically want 8-10 people helping (both with installation and with take down/storage). The price on this size liner is \$1,500. The white surface of the liner also helps prolong the life of the ice in that it doesn't absorb the sunlight as much as a darker surface would. There are sufficient funds in the Park Fund to cover Ross Degerstrom's estimate for repairs (\$3,871) and the liner. **Motion by White, second by Dybvig, to recommend the purchase of the liner for \$1,500. Motion passed 3-0.**
- E. Lions Hill rink – Ross Degerstrom has been asked for a quote to level off the ground. No response has been received. Staff was directed to contact Mike Johnson.

- F. Stage at Robinson Park – Mikrot is getting quotes to (1) repair what’s there, or (2) build a new stage over the existing structure.
- G. Park Land Swap – Old Tennis Courts – Staff is working through the process to swap one of the softball field lots in exchange for the old tennis courts. However, the value of the one lot is much less than the value of the original Tennis Courts lot; therefore, both softball field lots will be needed in the exchange.
- H. Legacy Grant – Leaha is working with Candace at WSB on the application. They are looking into any hours or money that’s been put into the park in the last year (to use as matching). The 2018 City budget includes \$20,000 towards matching funds, bringing the total match available to \$40,000 (2017 amount + 2018 amount). There is no grant application deadline; however, the sooner the application is turned in the better. Leaha hopes to complete the application by the end of the month.
- I. Camping Registrations – There were 11 registrations for 15 days of camping during the month of August.

New Business

- A. Sandstone Climber’s Fest. The City Council is asking the Commission to review a request from the MN Climbers Association to hold their annual Sandstone Climbers Fest at Robinson Park on September 23rd and 24th, with setup starting on Friday, September 22nd. The Commission expressed support for the event, and noted that it has been growing. Because of the growth, the Commission would like to see the following for this year’s event:
- “Restricted Area” signage to prevent vehicles from going through environmentally sensitive areas;
 - Rope off the stage area, with signage “Please Respect this Historically Significant artifact”;
 - Fires are only allowed in fire pits, as follows:
 - 1 fire pit by the climbing area
 - 1 existing fire ring across from the bathroom by the picnic pavilion
 - 3 existing fire rings in the camping areas
 - Cutting of trees for firewood is not allowed;
 - Designate an area for vehicle parking, with signage;
 - Designate an area for the food vendors;
 - Portage only to camp sites – no vehicles;
 - Place additional trash containers in park;
 - Beer Garden area does not need to be fenced in.
- B. Park Commission Membership. Currently, the membership of the Park & Rec Commission is: Dave Barsness, Dorothy Dybvig, Mary Franklin, Karry White, and Tesla Chester – a total of 5 members. City Code states that the Commission will

consist of 10 members – 2 appointed at large may be students in a junior or senior high school and 2 need not be residents of the City.

Commissioners discussed how difficult it is to get additional members. After discussion, **motion by Dybvig, second by White, to recommend the City Code be amended to state *The Park and Recreation Advisory Commission consists of seven members. One of the members may be a student in a junior or senior high school at the time of their appointment. One member need not be a resident of the City.*** **Motion passed 3-0.**

- C. 2018 Proposed Budget. The Commission reviewed the proposed 2018 Park Fund budget. The Council would like the Commission to set a budget for the Community Events, distributing the allocated \$10,000 allotted as appropriate. The Commission will work on doing this.
- D. Park Inspection Forms. The Commission discussed creating Park Inspection Forms for each park. Staff will work on this, with the Commission reviewing the forms and making changes as necessary.
- E. Rink Maintenance & Warming House Attendant. The Commission discussed hiring one person who can do both rink maintenance and warming house attendant duties. They reviewed a DRAFT job description and felt that it was appropriate. The Commission recommends the position be advertised during the month of October.
- F. Miscellaneous Items.
 - Commissioners would like to place a doggie waste station at Robinson Park.

Adjournment

Motion Dybvig, second White to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy George, City Administrator