

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, November 9, 2017 – at Sprouts on 5th

Members present: Dave Barsness, Dorothy Dybvig, Karry White, Mary Franklin, Tony Vavricka; Council Liaison Tim Franklin

Members absent: Tesla Chester

Staff Present: Administrator Kathy George, Streets & Park Supervisor John Mikrot; Utility Billing Clerk Leaha Jackson

Guests: Eric Sturtz

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

Agenda

Motion Dybvig, second White, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

Minutes

Motion Franklin, second Dybvig, to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2017 meeting as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

New Business

A. Eric Sturtz – New Park & Rec Commission Member – Eric Sturtz has expressed interest in serving on the Park & Rec Commission. He is a resident of Sandstone.

Motion Barsness, second Franklin, to recommend the City Council appoint Sturtz to the Park & Rec Commission. Motion passed 5-0.

B. Chamber Request – Santa at Lions Hill – Rose from the Chamber is asking if they can use the warming house at Lions Hill on Saturday, December 2nd, from 1-3 p.m. They would like to have Santa there handing out candy and providing photo opportunities.

December 2nd is the day that local craft fairs are being planned as well. **Motion Dybvig, second White, to approve the request. Motion passed 5-0.**

Continuing Business

A. Legacy Grant Review – Jackson reviewed information with the Commission about the previous grant application (which was not approved) and some proposed modifications to the next grant application. There was much discussion about priorities, costs, and the local match required. The City will have saved up \$40,000 by 2018 that can be used as local match. However, a minimum of 5% local match is required in order to receive additional scoring points for the application. On a \$2,000,000 project; 5% is \$100,000. There was discussion about scaling back the scope of the grant request, or whether the City could authorize an interfund loan to make up the difference. Commissioners will review the information that was provided and discuss the application / priorities further at the December meeting.

- B. Angle Park – The Application for the Purchase of Land has been submitted to BNSF. Cathy Clune with BNSF was out to view the property. Staff is waiting on Clune to respond to follow-up phone calls.
- C. Gin Pole – Mikrot is getting quotes to repair the base with cast-in-place concrete. Barsness brought local contractor Dan Lang down to see the area, asking him if additional clearing will be needed. Lang stated that access should not be a problem. Mikrot will follow up with Lang and other contractors, asking for bids for consideration next spring.
- D. Hockey Rink Update – The hockey liner has been received. Ross Degerstrom will complete the work he was authorized to do prior to the liner being placed. We will need about 8 people to help place the liner. Staff will see if the Firefighters will be available – this will be coordinated with Ross.
- E. Lions Hill rink – Mike Johnson leveled the rink and added some clay material. The rink should be all set for flooding.
- 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. The required survey was received yesterday and has been forwarded to the State.
- H. Rink Maintenance & Warming House Attendant – The City received one application for the position. Staff has contacted Phase to see if they are interested/able to partner with the City on the assigned duties. Another idea is to see if the Quarry Lions are interested in helping with the warming house attendant portion of the position.
- I. Game Time Playground Grant – Staff followed up on this possible grant source and found that grants can only be applied to additional GameTime purchases and only in conjunction with the original purchase. When the City is ready to look for playground equipment, we can check with GameTime for their various promotions.
- J. Robinson Park Clean Up – Barsness had organized a clean up for Saturday, October 28th. However, due to the snow that had fallen on Friday, no one showed up. A couple of climbers were there (they had previously planned to be there) and they did some work on the wall.

There was discussion about communication with the Climbers Association members. Apparently they extended the water line to make additional room or new climbing areas; however, the Park & Rec Commission was not consulted or informed. Vavricka stated that now that he is a Commission Member, communication should flow better. He will also forward plans as they are developing in the future so that Commission Members can be better informed.

- D. Camping Registrations – There were 2 registrations for 2 days of camping during the month of October.

Other

George noticed that a billboard is available down Highway 35 near Rush City. Perhaps it would be good to advertise Robinson Park and the Ice Climbing wall. She will look into prices.

Commissioners turned in Park Inspection Forms for Robinson Park, Lions Hill, Train Park, and Angle Park. Staff will follow up on needed repairs and maintenance. It was noted that the shelter at Johnson Park is sinking. Mikrot will follow up on that concern. White stated that the Streets & Park Crew have done an excellent job this summer.

Vavricka suggested the Commission look into the possibility of becoming a “Bicycle Friendly Community”.

Adjournment

Motion Dybvig, second White to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy George, City Administrator