

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Friday, June 8, 2018

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

Members absent: None

Staff Present: Administrator Kathy George

Guests: None

Call to Order

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

Agenda

Motion Franklin, second Dybvig, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

Minutes

Motion White, second Dybvig, to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

New Business

- A. Robinson Park Toilets – Administrator George reported that it was suggested the City add benches in the toilets at Robinson Park so that people who are changing clothes have somewhere to place their things. Staff researched options and the Park Commission reviewed four assorted styles with prices ranging from \$277.82 to \$853.25 for two, 4-foot long benches. Commissioners felt that the benches should be wall-mount for ease of cleaning, metal for durability, and no longer than 4'. They expressed concern with complying with ADA standards. **Motion by Vavricka, second by Sturtz, to recommend the City purchase two 4-foot long metal, wall-mount benches for the toilets at Robinson Park, and further directed Staff to look into ADA standards. Motion passed 7-0.**
- B. Legacy Grant Application – Commissioners discussed the upcoming Legacy Grant Application. Joe Czapiewski, Greater MN Parks & Trails Commission, is planning to come to Robinson Park, along with Candace Amberg (WSB), on Tuesday, June 19th, at 10:30 a.m. Commissioners were invited and encouraged to attend, if available. They suggested Richard Vanderwerf be on hand to provide historical information about the Quarry operation as well.

Commissioners reviewed the grant application language. Discussion turned to details of the proposed project. If the application is approved, design work will begin. It is during the design phase that most of the comments/input from Commissioners can be addressed.

Continuing Business

- A. Arts in the Park – Tuesdays in June. This week was the first night. Rob McGown performed the concert. Administrator George gave an update on the Kettle River Watershed Mural project. Nathan Frazer & the A.M. Band will perform on June 12th, with a presentation given by Hardwater Sports.
- B. Kettle River Watershed Mural Project – the City Council agreed to provide the remaining cash match of \$3,750, which will come from the Capital Improvement Fund (401) – Small Park Projects line item. The project will kick off with a 3-day community paint event in Train Park August 3-5. Commissioners were asked to help spread the word.
- C. Angle Park – Discussion continued regarding the possibilities of dissolving Angle Park. This would involve:
- Relocating the skatepark and possibly also adding a basketball court to the new location. Administrator George spoke with School Superintendent Almos about the lots over by the old High School building that are owned by the School District. He thought that the School Board would be in favor of working with the City to create a City Park there.
 - Dismantling the hockey rink; perhaps the hockey boards can be sold to another community/interested party. Possible ideas for the hockey rink were to set it up near the softball field or at Lions Hill, or perhaps make the equipment/boards available to others who may be interested in maintaining it in the future at a different location.
 - Moving the warming house building to Train Park to be used for concessions.

At this point, Commissioners would like to hear from the public about these ideas; particularly, about dismantling the hockey rink. It was decided that an Open Forum meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 11th, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Notices will be put in the newspaper, on Facebook, and on the Cable TV channel.

- D. Gin Pole – Streets and Park Supervisor Mikrot has resigned his position with the City. Dan Lang has been contacted for a quote to reinforce the base of the Gin Pole.
- E. Stage at Robinson Park – Chair Barsness, Commissioner Vavricka and Administrator George met with Mike Johnson about the possibility of replacing the stage with large sandstone boulders. Johnson has agreed to work with the City to come up with a plan.
- F. Group Camping – Chair Barsness, Commissioner Vavricka and Administrator George met at Robinson Park to review a potential group camping site. The desired location is just north of the old dam location. A group of Boy Scouts will be camping there this weekend, which will provide some helpful feedback. Some leveling of the site will be needed in the future, as well as a fire ring and perhaps a picnic table.

Some discussion was had regarding both group camping and the three individual campsites:

- On June 24th, Tracy Lutheran Church will be hosting group camping. That same date, the United Church of Christ has reserved the pavilion – how does the City handle double-bookings. The City could provide groups with “Reserved” signs. Commissioner White offered to coordinate placing some type of sign holder on the pavilion so that the “Reserved” sign can be easily displayed.
- Are we going to charge for group camping? Groups are required to fill out a Special Event Permit form. There currently is no fee associated with a Special Event Permit; however, there is a clean up deposit required, if applicable. It was thought that the group camping site is not suitable for charging a fee at this time, as it is just getting established and needs some work. Consensus of the Commission was to charge \$20 a night for group camping once the site is ready to help offset the additional trash and staff time associated with the use.
- The First Come/First Served policy for the individual camp sites has been problematic at Victory. People will go set up their tents and then stop in at Victory to register, only to find that someone else has already registered for that particular site. Perhaps a clip can be added to the camp site marker along with signage stating that campers must register before setting up. When they register, they can be given a card to attach to the clip to indicate that the site has been reserved.
- Parking can be a concern. Campers have been able to park multiple vehicles at the individual camp sites – this hasn’t been a problem.
- People would like to call in and reserve sites – the City is not set up for this. If people need a reserved site, they can call Banning or the new RV/Camping park.
- Perhaps trash containers could be added to each camp site – Commissioners were not in favor of this. Campers can continue to bring their trash to the containers near the parking lot / pavilion area.

G. Train Park Kiosk – Chair Barsness, Commissioner Sturtz, and Administrator George met with Craig Saari (Colors by Craig) to discuss ideas for the kiosk at Train Park. There are 6 panels. The group thought that there could be one panel for each of the following:

- City Parks
- Robinson Park
- Directory of Businesses in town
- Directory of non-profits and service organizations in town
- Quarry Days
- History of Sandstone

The group will continue to work with Saari on the design for each panel. An “Information” sign will also be added to the kiosk.

H. Robinson Park Camping Registrations – There were 11 registrations for 18 nights of camping in May.

Other

Inspection forms for Robinson Park and the Softball Field were turned in.

Adjournment

Motion White, second Sturtz to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy George, City Administrator