

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Friday, November 9, 2018**

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

Members absent: None

Staff Present: Administrator Kathy George, Streets & Parks Supervisor Craige Hiler

Guests: None

Call to Order

Chair Barsness called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

Agenda

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

Minutes

Motion Franklin, second White, to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

New Business

- A. Special Event Permit – Sandstone Ice Fest – The City received a Special Event Permit Application from the MN Climbers Association. They plan to hold their annual Sandstone Ice Fest on January 4, 5, 6, 2019. They estimate 160-190 attendees. As in previous years, they would like to have permission for climbers to camp in the park on Friday and Saturday nights. They also request the City provide 2 port-a-potties.

Motion Vavricka, second Chasson to recommend approval with the following conditions:

- **Fires are only allowed in fire pits, as follows:**
 - **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;**
- **Portage only to camp sites – no vehicles;**
- **The Sheriff’s Department should be made aware of the event;**
- **The City will provide 2 port-a-potties**

Motion passed 7-0.

Continuing Business

- A. Legacy Grant Application – Robinson Park – Nothing new to report, just waiting to hear if the City’s grant request would be funded.

- B. Johnson Park – Local handyman Rod Zacharias completed the shelter repair project. Total project cost was \$2,535.86 labor, equipment rental, and materials.
- C. Angle Park – Administrator George has received inquiries regarding the hockey boards and ice machine. Commissioners discussed whether or not they are ready to offer the boards for sale. Consensus was to place a request for bids in the newspaper and see what the response is.
- D. Pine Avenue – Big Spring Falls – City Engineer/Inspector Steve Rose and Streets & Parks Supervisor Craige Hiler are working together to come up with a plan and cost estimates to improve the City’s portion of the road.
- E. Gin Pole – Chair Barsness reported that he recently talked with Dan Lang about the project. Lang indicated that he doesn’t know how he would be able to undertake the project; he doesn’t have the necessary equipment. Administrator George was directed to look for another contractor, someone with historic preservation experience.
- F. Stage at Robinson Park – The City will continue to work with Mike Johnson on the possibility of creating a stage from old sandstone slabs. In the meantime, the City Crew dismantled the old stage and disposed of the materials.
- G. Train Park Kiosk – Work continues for designs of the following:
- a. City Parks
 - b. Robinson Park
 - c. Directory of Businesses in town
 - d. Directory of non-profits and service organizations in town
 - e. Quarry Days
 - f. History of Sandstone
- H. Timber Harvest – The project is now complete. The original estimate was in the amount of \$19,100. The final amount the City will receive is \$40,578.93. Forester Erik Eggen sent this report:

Kathy, I received the final scale slips from SAPPI and from Carlson Timber. We settled the timber sale. I am attaching the spread sheet. I am sending a hard copy with the City’s stumpage check for \$40,578.93 out tomorrow. The sale went smoothly. They did a nice job and it will regenerate back to aspen as we planned. Surprising we got over twice as much wood off that property as I had estimated. Reason being I was very conservative on the original estimate. I didn’t think we would be able to secure access across State lands to log a portion of timber on the Skunk Creek so I excluded it from the original. Also They cut a portion of your timber west of the Military road I didn’t think would be worth cutting...but they were able to make it worth while and cut it. So that is good.

*If you have any questions when you get the spread sheet give me a call.
Thanks again!*

*Erik Eggen
Timberlane Forestry
218-232-3055*

Administrator George reported that 1,306 cords of Aspen were harvested, as well as 72 cords of Maple/Ash. Some Commissioners expressed their strong opinion that the timber harvesting was a mistake and was a violation of the City's Tree Ordinance. There was discussion about the goals of a Forest Management Plan. It was noted that trees have grown back in other areas that were harvested years ago.

Commissioners felt that there should be some sort of consensus on what the overall plan for the KREEC property is. They decided to create a subcommittee to look into options. Chair Barsness, Commissioner Vavricka, and Commissioner Chasson agreed to serve on the subcommittee.

- I. Robinson Park Camping Statistics – There were 3 registrations in October, with 4 days of camping recorded.

Other

- A. Minnesota Climbers Association Correspondence:

November 2, 2018:

Hi Dave,

I Hope that you are well and having a great Autumn.

Winter is just around the corner and the MCA is planning a "Work Day" do get the park ready for ice season.

We're aiming for Sunday November 11th. 10am meetup and quit when we're done or too tired - whatever come first.

Please let me know if this conflicts with anything.

Goals of the day:

1. Pull brush and trees that were tossed off the "School Room" mezzanine out to the road - for disposal by the city.
2. Make a better trail that leads up to the first small ladder to the Derrick Wall & School Room Wall (cut switchbacks or make stairs?, rock steps?)
3. Cliff cleaning clean brush from the cliff side.
4. If there is time and it is dry enough, take a few cans of paint and paint the main trunk wherever it is yellow or the paint is all scratched off - one or two people.

5. Graffiti removal from the Stage Wall? If time allows...

6. A few of us will be doing some maintenance and work on the plumbing system as well.

Please let me know if this all sounds good! Or have anything to add!

Thanks!

Best,
Peter Lenz

The removal of graffiti was questioned, as this serves as the backdrop for memorable photos from time to time. It was thought that some of the more offensive expressions could be removed, but the majority of the graffiti should remain.

Adjournment

Motion White, second Vavricka, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 a.m. Motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy George, City Administrator