

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

Friday, June 12, 2020

*This meeting took place via Zoom Video Conference*

**Members present:** Dave Barsness, Dorothy Dybvig, Eric Sturtz, David Chasson, Karry White

**Members absent:** Tony Vavricka, Oliver Dykstra

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

**Other:** None

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Dybvig.

**Approve Agenda**

**Motion Barsness, second White, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion passed 5-0.**

**Approve Meeting Minutes**

**Motion White, second Barsness, to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2020 meeting. Motion passed 5-0.**

**New Business**

Lions Hill Sewer & Water Quotes – Two quotes were received to provide water to the chalet at Lions Hill and also to upgrade the sanitary sewer system:

MPJ Enterprises

- Install water line from main to building           \$3,030.00
- Install holding tank w/electrical alarm           \$4,265.00

Total MPJ Enterprises   \$7,295.00

Roberts Excavating

- Install 1650 gallon holding tank and
- Tap into city water main   \$9,500.00

Interior plumbing work will also be required. Administrator George reported that there is about \$10,724 available in the 2020 Park Fund budget for projects.

After clarifying that this project will not interfere with paving the parking area, **motion Barsness, second White, to recommend the City Council accept the quote from MPJ Enterprises for \$7,295.00. Motion passed 5-0.**

Commercial Use of Robinson Park - The following entities have submitted their forms and fees for 2020:

- Midwest Mountain Guides \$100
- UW River Falls \$50
- Vertical Endeavors \$100
- Positive Energy Outdoors \$50
- Rapid Riders \$50
- U of M – Minneapolis Campus \$50

Commissioners discussed the fact that Hardwater Sports has not applied for a permit. Staff sent the annual notice, followed by a second notice. No response has been received. Chair Dybvig agreed to contact the owner, who is a member of the Park & Rec Commission, regarding this and other Park Commission matters.

It was also suggested that these permitted entities be listed on the City website. George will follow up with this suggestion.

### **Continuing Business**

**KREEC Site** – David Chasson presented the plan to create trails and boardwalks to the City Council on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The Council approved designating the KREEC site a City Park. Use of motorized vehicles is prohibited in all City Parks. Administrator George will call neighboring property owner Lee Greenly and let him know that signs will soon be posted prohibiting motorized vehicles. Streets & Parks Supervisor Hiler will order the signs. Hiler will also take pictures of the stove that is inside the building so that it can be offered for sale on the public auction website. Once the stove has been removed, George will advertise for bids to remove the building.

Chasson met with Leah Hart, Pine County Soil & Water Conservation District, regarding the placement of boardwalks. Hart suggested Chasson work with a wetland specialist. Chasson stated that one boardwalk area will be a simple project; however, two other areas are more complicated because of wetlands.

**Robinson Park** – There were 33 registrations for 49 days of camping in May. Staff is looking into on-line registration options.

**Legacy Grant** – This information was received from Renee Mattson, GMRPTC Executive Director:

*Robinson Park Phase 1 Recreational Redevelopment will be funded at the grant amount of \$902,654. The Commission did not fund the restrooms, picnic shelter, tables, and concrete shelter plaza in this grant, a reduction of \$255,000 from the request of \$1,157,654. You will be contacted by DNR staff in coming days to begin the contracting process, which must be completed before funds may be spent, both grant and match. With your reduced funding award your match will reduced by \$35,000, which was the match funds to the components not funded.*

The DNR has since contacted the City regarding the contracting process. Administrator George is working on their required Application form.

Additionally, the City is being encouraged by GMRPTC to submit an application for FY22 funding to include the items that were not allowed in the Phase 1 project – vault restroom, picnic shelter & tables, and concrete shelter plaza. Total estimated cost was \$290,000 (GMRPTC portion was \$255,000, but the total estimated cost of these items is \$290,000). Updated cost estimates will be obtained before submitting the application, which is due by July 31<sup>st</sup>. The 10% match would be \$29,000, but could change based on the updated estimates.

**Train Park** – Planting of Trees. George met with Karry & Alan White and Mary Thorvig regarding the placement of trees in Train Park. While there, it was determined that a dead pine tree needs to be removed. With losing that tree, the group thought that it would be nice to add a 3<sup>rd</sup> tree to replace it. Mary Thorvig chose to have her tree planted over by the mural/gazebo area. Happy Land Tree Farms has called in the Gopher One locates and expects to plant all 4 trees in the next week or so, weather

permitting. Commissioners were in agreement with planting a 3<sup>rd</sup> tree to replace the one that is being taken down.

### 2020 Festivals / Events

- Arts in the Park – Tuesdays in June – the Commission decided to continue the postponement of these events due to the COVID-19 situation, and possibly cancelling them for the year.
- National Night Out – August 4<sup>th</sup>: Follow same format as last year, depending on the COVID-19 situation.
- Quarry Days – August 14-15 – has now been cancelled for the year.
- Robinson Park – Fall Clean Up:
  - Climbers have been asked to set a date
- Oktoberfest – October 3<sup>rd</sup>:
  - Working with Tom and Penny on the details
  - Bavarian Musikmeisters have been hired for \$1,000 to perform from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
  - The Chamber will be invited to partner with the City on planning this event.
  - Commissioners White, Dybvig, and Chasson volunteered to help with the plans.

### Other

- The Park Commission received a Thank-you note from the Sandstone Flower & Garden Club.
- Special Event Permits have been received for BSA Troop 9067 (camping at Robinson Park on June 12-14), and for the Sandstone Flea Market (June 1<sup>st</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>).
- Commissioner White noted that she participated in the City's priority setting session and was surprised to see that the desire for a playground/park for children that is handicap accessible was high on the list for participants. When this process is complete, the list of priorities will be shared with the Park Commission for continued discussion.

### Adjourn

**Motion White, second Chasson, to adjourn at 9:15 a.m. Motion passed 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy George, City Administrator