

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
**Princeton Parks & Recreation Board**  
Held on May 24, 2010, in the Chambers of City Hall

Chairperson Mark Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:35. Members present were: Blake Broding, Cheryl Goetz, Mark Schneider and Scott Suhsen and new members Carla Vita and Todd Fredrick. Dick Peterson was absent. Also present were Dick Dobson and Bob Gerold.

**Swearing in of New Members**

Mark Karnowski joined us briefly to swear in our new members.

**Minutes for April 26, 2010 Meeting**

There were two corrections to the minutes for the April 26, 2010 meeting. One being the year, 2010, not 2009. The other was a correction to the spelling of Carla Vita's name. There being no other corrections or amendments, Goetz made a motion to approve the amended minutes for the March 22, 2010, meeting. Broding seconded the motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

For the sake of guests we jumped to new business first:

**Bird Information Display Case for Pioneer Park**

Judy Hible presented the idea of placing an information board at Pioneer Park most specifically for presenting information on birds, especially those using the birdhouses in Pioneer Park. The case would have a corkboard with space for 4 standard size sheets of paper. The case would be Plexiglas enclosed. This would be a 4-H project and a project for herself as a volunteer wildlife expert. She presented how the present bluebird houses are being used and how much or how little different birds using the houses would tolerate disturbances with blue birds even accepting some human handling of babies without problems.

Schneider suggested that since the Rotary Club had adopted Pioneer park at one time it might be good to contact them with regards to funding they might need for the materials (4-H kids will be building the case). Dobson suggested that to minimize the risk of vandalism it would be good to place the case at the park entrance rather than down in the park. Broding suggested that the design follow that done by Zack Foede for the eagle scout project he did.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Mark Park:**

**Picnic Tables:** Gerold reported that the slabs have been poured and the tables are being assembled and will probably be installed before the weekend.

The high school has been using the park a lot lately and a sign was put up to encourage people to use the overflow parking lot as necessary.

**Splash Park:** Gerold reported that the splash park is ready to go. The pump was okay with bearing replacements. Some sensors and a valve needed work and Mark Antczak is working on that; as usual, he is donating his labor and only charging for parts. Vita suggested a thank you note to him. The splash park start up is this coming Saturday morning. There are two new employees and one returning from last year.

**Riverside Park:** Gerold and Fredrick reported that there have been people driving past the south well house down to the river and getting stuck. The hillside where they are driving is getting torn up in the process. They will be putting posts in and repairing the hillside with dirt and seed to discourage further driving in that area. Putting up a No Motorized Vehicles sign was discussed. Gerold would have to purchase one, as they don't have any. Any new signs need to fit new state requirements for retroreflectivity.

There is a new host for the Riverside campground, Vincent Gothman.

**Rainbow Park:** Gerold reported that there hasn't been a lot done there. A general cleanup, a little vandalism, repainted some playground equipment. There are stumps to remove.

For the sake of the new members we discussed the idea of moving the campground from Riverside to Rainbow at some point in the future and the pros and cons of that.

**Reibe Park:** Schneider and Gerold reported that West Branch Construction had done a tremendous job of removing stumps, buckthorn and prickly ash. The worked up areas were then dragged, seeded and mulched with straw. It will be six weeks at least before we can put in the baskets and tees and the area has been blocked off for now to prevent damage to the emerging grass.

Gerold wants to get the water line in for the doggie park before the bridge construction company moves in so that when the parking lot and drive are done they won't have to rip up blacktop. Fredrick suggested that at some point lighting should go in for security purposes and it would be helpful for the doggie park as well.

**Visionary Committee:** The amphitheater site and basic layout has been chosen and approved by the city council and now permitting must be done. WSB will be the chief planners for the project.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no other new business.

## **Miscellaneous**

Dobson asked if the tree had been moved and the hole filled at Mark Park. Gerold reported that it was on the list of things to be done yet. Fredrick brought up the issue of the slides being hot and if there was anything that could be done about it. Several things were discussed but both Schneider and Gerold pointed out that they cost money that the park board doesn't have much of at the time. Gerold did say that there were some things being worked out with master gardeners that might result in some trees being available in the future that could be planted and would eventually offer shade but nothing right now.

Broding brought up a recent flier that had gone out to area businesses and organizations regarding advertising and promotions with the splash park. He thought the letter could have been done more professionally with better results. Other board members expressed agreement with having the piece rewritten in the future and Broding volunteered to help Hartigan with that. There was also discussion about having packets of tickets available to businesses for them to give out as promotions for their business and Vita suggested placing the tickets for sale on the splash park website.

The final point of discussion was with regards to having a sign in the city that let the public know of events, especially with regards to the parks but not exclusively. We discussed electronic signs as well as banners.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, Vita made a motion to adjourn. Fredrick seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:45.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary