

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Princeton Parks & Recreation Board
Held on July 27, 2009, in the Chambers of City Hall

Chairperson Mark Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:35. Members present were: Blake Broding, Cheryl Goetz, Stephanie Ketterl, Skeeter Lane, Dick Peterson, Mark Schneider and Scott Suhsen. No members were absent. Also present were Bob Gerold and LeeAnn Hartigan.

Minutes for June 22, 2009 Meeting

There being no corrections or additions to the minutes of the last meeting, Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes for the June meeting. Ketterl seconded the motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

MARK PARK

Lions Picnic Shelter Roof: Gerold reported that the roof of the Lion's shelter is in good shape. We had considered the possibility of it being replaced to match the new roofs on the splash park picnic shelter and the Jaycees concession building but that won't be necessary.

Wood Chips: Gerold reported that he was able to get a good deal on wood chips from Sylva. He got \$13,000 worth of chips for \$4500. Chips were put around the playground areas in Mark, Riverside and Rainbow Parks with the majority going into Mark. West Branch Construction helped the city spread them. Pads were also placed at the bottom of the slides in Mark Park to help keep the ground from getting dug up at the bottom of the slides.

Splash Park: Hartigan reported that as of 7-15-09 there have been 3210 park users (paid attendance plus users of free passess). The gate receipts total \$8804 and with sales of candy and all the total is \$9566.94. There are several events planned for August and there have been 52 parties booked for the summer with the last one on Labor Day weekend. There are 4 employees. There have been no major problems.

Peterson asked that the employees be asked to drive more carefully around the ball park to where they park as he had witnessed excessive speed at one point.

New Ideas: Schneider asked the board members for ideas on projects we could do. He brought up the idea of a mini golf course. It could be an activity for older kids and it could generate revenue as well. After some discussion, Ketterl volunteered to look into that more.

Schneider also proposed more picnic tables in Mark Park with concrete pads under them.

There was discussion about moving the campground to Rainbow Park and having hookups for 6 to 8 RVs. We also discussed raising the camping fees. Right now they are \$7 per night for hook up and \$5 per night without hookup. Those seem to be very cheap compared to what some board members have seen elsewhere. A couple different prices were discussed but no motion was made to change the rates for next year and it was tabled for future discussion.

Gerold reported that things have been going well at Riverside Campground with little problems,

Suhsen suggested we should put more trees in Mark Park. Gerold reported that he is budgeting for more trees next year and that the trees they've gotten lately have been used mostly for replacements.

Suhsen raised the idea of raising the splash park fees next year. He felt that the extra revenue generated would help cover future costs in maintenance and allow some new things to be done and added. There was some concern that this was not the time to raise prices with the economy the way it is. Schneider offered that this wouldn't have to be decided until next May and tabled the discussion.

Bike And Hike Trails & Visionary Committee

Suhsen reported that Rick Johnson (West Branch Construction) has leveled out the trail from south of the new water treatment plant south to 313th. Johnson has a culvert to put in yet but otherwise the trail can be used as a walking path now.

Riebe Park Frisbee Golf

Suhsen reported that about three weeks ago he and Dave Patten had walked over the Riebe property and compared what was there to what had been plotted out on an aerial photo for 18 holes of Frisbee golf. Suhsen thought the property was ideal for this. Once the proper permits are in place the first three holes can be put in place with funding already available for that. He reported the Visionary Committee will have a booth at the county fair. Gerold gave Suhsen a portable Frisbee Golf goal that he had picked up and Suhsen thought it would work well for the fair booth.

Mark Park Security Camera Update: One tree had to be removed but now with the better cameras and better locations for them they can zoom in on individuals and identify them.

Dog Park

Goetz asked Gerold if there were options for getting the fencing, which is the biggest hurdle to clear. Gerold is looking and there was some discussion about ideas for places to look for deals on fencing.

NEW BUSINESS

Dugouts and Bleachers: Gerold reported that Glen Klaphake had asked about having dugouts for the new ball field built of concrete block built from block salvaged from the recently demolished Smith System building. Suhsen questioned what the block would look like and thought the block should be looked at after they are cleaned up before allowing the dugouts to be built. Peterson said he has been looking into what it would cost to put in metal dugouts.

Miscellaneous

Peterson recently had an issue with people using the new ball field before it was completed. He said that some softball players insisted on using the ball field for practice and had dug up the pitchers mound and pulled up stakes. The hope was that this was an isolated incident and won't happen again.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Peterson made a motion to adjourn. Broding seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary