

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Princeton Parks & Recreation Board

Held on August 24, 2009, at Mark Park

Chairperson Mark Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:35. Members present were: Blake Broding, Cheryl Goetz, Skeeter Lane, Dick Peterson, Mark Schneider and Scott Suhsen. Stephanie Ketterl was absent. Also present were Bob Gerold and Dick Dobson and Ciara Schlichting.

Minutes for July 27, 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. Lane seconded the motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

For the sake of our guest, we jumped to new business first.

Regional Parks & Trails Board Discussion

Schlichting works for Bonestroo and as part of the city's participation in the 1000 Friends of Minnesota's Community Growth Options Program is working with the Princeton Area Visionary Committee (PAVC) to help support their mission "To Unite a Shared Vision for the Princeton Area."

She first asked for what we feel are potential opportunities by having the PAVC. Then she asked us what we thought were potential threats or problems by having PAVC. She then asked if the board members thought we should or were interested in participating. Schneider expressed that the board is interested in participating and the rest of the board members were in agreement. Schlichting will be compiling the results and sharing them with us in the future. In the meantime she shared with us the general results from the townships. Most of the townships were interested in participation with those in Isanti least interested since they feel they are well served by the county already.

OLD BUSINESS

Mark Park: Schneider asked the board members if they had come up with any ideas for the park. He suggested two things: first he suggested more picnic tables and second he suggested a blacktop paved trail that would wind around the whole park. There was even discussion about connecting the trail to areas north and south of the park.

Suhsen suggested more trees and specifically suggested the area east of the splash park picnic shelter isn't usable as it is and we continually put wood chips in that area. Schneider shared an idea Gerold had to terrace that area and fill it in so that it could be used for more tables and grills there as well as trees. Schneider had us walk over by the south softball field and we looked at the under used area along the fence there. After looking the area over, Goetz made a motion to put four picnic tables along that fence with the cost of the tables and concrete pads not to exceed a total of \$4000. Peterson second the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Bike And Hike Trails: Suhsen reported that the only significant change was the mowing of the trail from the new water treatment plant south to 316th has been done so that it is a nice walking path now.

Visionary Committee: Suhsen reported that there has been progress on the Frisbee golf course with enough money for three holes already. He mentioned that the park board might be asked to donate and / or lend money to the effort in the near future. He wants to purchase all the baskets at once even though the first nine holes wouldn't be completed until spring. He expects a better deal by going that route. He also thinks he might be able to get Crystal to help with getting the baskets shipped with one of their trucks.

Suhsen reported that the fair booth went well and the portable basket Gerold had gotten had doubled the traffic to the booth. Dobson pointed out that \$70 was donated at the fair for the golf course.

Dog Park: Gerold reported that he had not been able to track down used fence; when it is torn down it isn't usually usable again. He priced out what a 100' x 200' fence would be and it was \$7500. Suhsen and Goetz thought that was a bigger area than necessary so that the total cost for the dog park might be less than \$7500. Goetz asked about water and Gerold said that it would be possible to run water from a nearby hydrant.

Splash Park: Gerold presented a summary of all the revenue and costs for the splash park last year (put together by Steve Jackson). The bottom line showed a loss of over \$12,000 although a number of costs were one time charges that may not happen for quite a while again. There was discussion about costs for similar entertainment elsewhere, \$8 per person in the cities for example, as well as the difficult times for people with the current economy. Broding made a motion to raise the single person entry fee to \$4 next year. Peterson seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Miscellaneous

Gerold reported that there has been some issue with the reservation of the picnic shelters and that people apparently aren't always aware that they should be reserved which causes problems at times. He is going get some signs made to remind people to contact city hall for reservations.

Dobson offered that there has been feedback on people still wanting a skate park but that we need to find out more about whether the hockey association is still planning on having one for the summers on their outdoor rink.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Peterson made a motion to adjourn. Lane seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:4,0.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary