

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**Princeton Parks & Recreation Board**  
Held on August 23, 2010, at the Mark Park Picnic Shelter

Chairperson Mark Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:32. Members present were: Blake Broding, Mary Chapman, Todd Fredrick, Cheryl Goetz, Mark Schneider, Scott Suhsen and Carla Vita. Also present was Dick Dobson.

**Minutes for July 26, 2010 Meeting**

Vita had one change to the minutes for the last meeting: in the attendance section there was the wording 'joined the meeting later' which did not apply to anything and needed to be stricken. There being no further corrections or additions, Vita made a motion to approve the July 26 minutes as corrected. Fredrick seconded the motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

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

**Jasper McLaughlin Disk Golf Course:**

McLaughlin approached the board about planning and implementing a disk golf course at Rainbow Park. He would be doing this as an eagle scout project. He had plans put together and had measured and calculated for a nine-hole course. Schneider asked if he was aware that we are in the process of completing a course in Riebe Park and McLaughlin had heard but wasn't sure of that until now. Schneider continued with the fact that the park board had been discussing having a campground in Rainbow Park, which would conflict with the space there.

Suhsen corrected a statement that McLaughlin had made that there wasn't much more than a garbage can at Rainbow. There is also the basketball courts and playground. Suhsen had been to Rainbow the previous evening to look over the situation and felt there was not adequate space for a nine-hole course, especially with regards to leaving adequate space between the course and the road, the basketball courts and the playground. He offered an alternative project that would fulfill the needs for eagle scout: the disk course at Riebe Park needs three bridges near one of the tees and the design and coordination of the construction would possibly fit quite well with the eagle scout badge.

Broding said he is familiar with the eagle scout program and advised McLaughlin to jump at the opportunity to do the bridges given the parameters laid out by the program and the offer of assistance from Suhsen.

McLaughlin agreed and will be contacting Suhsen for a separate meeting.

**Bob Peters Archery Range:**

Chapman began the presentation and Peters joined in as they had worked together to gather some of the materials. Peters is a member of the local archery club. The club has existed for near 40 years but does not publicize its existence. They would like to create an outdoor archery range in the northwest section of Riverview Park. This is an underutilized area and would provide enough space for an archery range, which could also take advantage of the topography. The course would have 3D targets such as coyotes, deer, turkeys, etc. The targets have to be replaced once in a while but they have a vitals target that can be more readily replaced. There is the potential that the course could be opened to non-member shooters who would pay a fee that would help cover the cost of the targets and other items. Vita wanted assurance that there would be no broad heads used, only field tips.

Peters spoke about club dues as well as having a charge for non-members to use the course. Those would be potential sources of income to cover costs for the course. Schneider advised that at this time the park board is not flush with cash so would not be able to participate in any large scale with costs.

The main concerns for the park board were insurance and the potential for non-course users getting into dangerous situations when the course is being used by shooters.

## *Page 2 – Minutes of Regular Meeting – Princeton Parks and Recreation Board, August 23, 2010*

Board members were concerned with security and Fredrick was concerned with how the area could possibly be policed. Peters has spoken to Bob Gerold about this and there was discussion about putting in a road that could be accessed with a four-wheel drive vehicle. This also has its own set of issues, as this kind of activity would require DNR approval since it is in the flood plain.

Peters was reassured that the board is not at this point against this but wants more plans drawn up and issues such as insurance addressed. He was asked to contact Mark Karnowski for League of Minnesota Cities insurance information regarding this. Peters brought up that the club is a member of the Minnesota State Archery Association and they would also have to approve their plans. Chapman offered to help further as well.

Safety was the key word for all parties.

**Monthly Safety Inspections:** Schneider reported that there would now be a monthly safety inspection at each park as required by OSHA. This will be done carefully and completely for each park each month.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Miniature Golf Course:** Fredrick reported on what he has found so far: He found five or six different companies that specialize in miniature golf courses; none of them were in state. Two of them he dismissed from his list fairly quickly. He reported that the costs were potentially quite surprising and could reach \$400,000 to \$600,000. Fredrick mentioned that from what he had seen so far, it might be possible to do something for \$100,000.

One company out of New Jersey stuck out for Fredrick and he spent the most time talking with Harris out of New Jersey. They have done some mini golf courses in this area of the state. They offer different levels of help from design and install, to design and supply a foreman to direct construction, to design and submit plans for locally contracted and built. The recommended space requirements are for 20,000 to 22,000 square feet to start with a nine-hole course. The feeling is that it could be expanded to 18 holes later. Where it could be situated so that it could be expanded would have to be determined. It might be possible to tie the collection of the entry fees with the splash park attendant so that at least part of the time there would be no additional employee needs. The possibility of having the mini golf course open later (lighted for evenings) might appeal to older kids.

Dobson expressed concern that the course not be too difficult for younger kids while still being challenging enough for older kids. Fredrick said that one recommendation was to have 9 holes that are easier and 9 holes that are more challenging to meet that need.

Schneider reminded the board that they might soon have about \$70,000 of additional money to work with and that with some in kind work this might not be out of the realm of possibilities.

### **Miscellaneous**

Dobson brought up that the PUC has approved abandonment of the well in Riverside Park at no expense to the PUC but that they would want the pump and casings. This would coordinate with the plans for the amphitheater and band shell there.

Suhsen brought up that there are only three baskets left to put up at the disk course and that things are moving along.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, Vita made a motion to adjourn. Broding seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:44.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary