

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
**Princeton Parks & Recreation Board**  
Held on January 28, 2013, in the Chambers of City Hall

Chairperson Blake Broding called the meeting to order at 6:00. Members present were Blake Broding, Mary Chapman, Michael Misiura, Scott Suhsen and Carla Vita. Absent were Bob Beattie and Todd Frederick. Also present were Bob Gerold, Dick Dobson and Carie Fuhrman.

**Minutes for November 26, 2012, Meeting**

Vita made a motion to approve the minutes for the November meeting. Chapman seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Revision:** Dobson asked that under new business the subject of Park Board Liaison be added. Gerold added that the subject of officers be added as well.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Bikes Belong Grant Application:** Fuhrman presented that there was grant money available for bike related programs and that the 4R Board had asked the Princeton Park Board to consider applying for a grant to cover the cost of striping a bike lane on First St. from Odgers dental to the depot. There is no match required and the application can be for up to \$10,000. Mark Riverblood (4R Board) offered to get a cost estimate for the striping. Chapman made a motion to have Fuhrman pursue the grant money further. Misiura seconded the motion. Suhsen mentioned that some of the grant money could be used to get bike signs that the SHIP grant wouldn't allow which was a subject of recent park board discussions. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**SHIP Grant:** Fuhrman asked the board if it was still interested in the grant because while there is no deadline, she thought that sooner would be better because the money could get awarded elsewhere. The signs are \$35 each. The bike racks may all be built by the school at no cost to the city but that needs to be determined and Broding took the task to check on how many the school is making, how much, if anything the park board would get charged and whether they would be finished by the school or not. Gerold mentioned that he had a good relationship with a local powder coater if the school didn't finish them or if they needed refinishing at some point. Vita made a motion for Fuhrman to pursue the grant with the sum determined by how many signs we needed and the costs of the bike rack (Gerold will do the leg work on determining the costs). Chapman seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

**DNR Local Trails Connections Grant Application:** Fuhrman said that the deadline for this grant program was approaching and asked if the board was interested. This grant requires a 25% match and again we would use the money towards paving the 1 mile of trail from the new water treatment plant south to 312<sup>th</sup>. We did not get the grant we applied for last fall but Fuhrman was told that this grant program better fit what we want to use if for because it is a local trail and not so much of a connecting trail (yet) as the previous grant application was. Fuhrman reported that Sherburne County now owns all the property to Zimmerman although they don't at this time have the funds to pave it yet. The track coach at Elk River is considering running a half marathon on the trail and there has been other interest in it as well. Suhsen pointed out that the trail is already getting mowed. Vita made a motion to pursue the grant with the 25% match coming from park dedication. Chapman seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

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**Safe Routes to School:** Fuhrman brought up that the Princeton Safe Routes to School Team is continuing to pursue a Safe Routes to School grant. As much as they could, they would like to improve conditions along 12<sup>th</sup> Street North and along 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. from the round about to 12<sup>th</sup> St. The grant request can be for up to \$300,000 so it might not cover both streets since there are trees to remove, utilities to move and more before sidewalks could be put in. The PSRST would like to get as many letters of recommendation as possible and was asking for support from the park board. Vita made a motion to have Fuhrman draft a letter of support for the chairperson to sign. Chapman seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed with Broding abstaining due to possible conflict of interest.

**Randy Hanson Property Discussion:** Randy Hanson would like to exchange a piece of property he owns north of the west branch of the Rum River (adjacent to the Riverview Park area) with a piece of property the city owns south of the river. Fuhrman had discussed this with Hanson and had told him it couldn't be an even exchange and that it would have to be surveyed and appraised. The board discussed the exchange and could come up with no reason to pursue this as it likely would not be in the city's interest in any way. Fuhrman took the task to follow up with Hanson.

**Council Liaison:** Dobson said that after eight years as the city council liaison for the park board he was stepping away from that position to give himself more time for other things. Jules Zimmer will be the new liaison. All board members voiced praise for the job Dobson had done and are sorry to see him leave.

**Officer Selections:** Broding brought up immediately that while he would be chairperson again if asked, he would prefer to step down. Frederick was mentioned as a possible candidate and Chapman expressed interest as well. Suhsen was asked if he was interested but he feels that as a non-resident on the board it could be awkward at which point Chapman said that she would decline for the same reason. Vita made a motion for Broding to remain chairperson. Chapman seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Suhsen made a motion for Vita to be vice chairperson. Chapman seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

The position of secretary was wide open as Suhsen had expressed last year that he would like to not do this any longer. No other board member expressed interest. It was brought up that someone could take notes and turn them into the office to be typed up. Suhsen said that would be awkward and difficult as notes were only notes and would be difficult to accurately portray what happened at the meetings. He offered to do it again as it's not that difficult, just time consuming. Chapman made a motion for Suhsen to be secretary and Vita seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

**<<< At this point, Misiura left for personal reasons. >>>**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Mark Park:** We discussed the present picnic shelter fee of \$35 and everyone was in agreement that was a pretty good deal. Chapman made a motion to raise the daily fee to \$50. Broding seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously. There was no other points of discussion for Mark Park. Dobson asked how this money got entered into the budget and Gerold wasn't sure.

**Splash Park:** We reviewed the \$4 day pass and \$15 family pass. Vita was stated that she was reluctant to do anything that would discourage people from coming to the splash park because it brings a lot of people to the community and many of them spend money elsewhere in towns. We agreed to leave the fees the same as last year.

**Riverside Park:** The current fees are \$25 with electricity and \$30 after 10 days; \$15 a day without electricity and \$20 after 10 days. Chapman asked why the 10 day change and Gerold said that it encourages people to leave at least for a couple days at that point so that they don't establish themselves too much to the point where the grass gets killed and so on. After some general discussion we agreed to leave the fees the same as last year. Fuhrman brought up that a survey of people in the campground found that people from all over the country stop there.

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For **Rainbow, Pioneer and Riverside Park** there were no reports and nothing to discuss but for **Reibe Park** it was noted that the park is still getting used. People are still using the dog park and others are still using the disc course. Gerold said that it caught them a bit by surprise when a few people had asked why it wasn't plowed out. Normally the parks aren't plowed in the winter but with people wanting to use Reibe yet they have had to make an exception.

**<<< At this point, Dobson left for personal reasons.**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Fuhrman presented an update on the Comprehensive Park and Trail Plan which had been sent to the board members with their meeting packets. There were a lot of favorable comments and a few suggestions for additions to the list of private active and passive recreational opportunities in the community.

**Adjournment** There being no further discussion, Vita made a motion to adjourn. Suhsen seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:00.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary