

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Princeton Parks & Recreation Board

Held on July 22, 2013, in the Chambers of City Hall

Chairperson Todd Frederick called the meeting to order at 6:03. Members present were Blake Broding, Mary Chapman, Todd Frederick and Scott Suhsen, Absent were Bob Beattie, Michael Misiura, and Carla Vita. Also present were Bob Gerold, Jules Zimmer and for the first part of the meeting Carie Fuhrman.

Minutes for June 24, 2013, Meeting

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

NEW BUSINESS

Bike Racks: Gerold reported the bike racks have been powder coated by Premiere Powder Coating, 6 red and 6 blue. A sample was available for the board to see. There was discussion about whether the school had already been reimbursed for materials and no one was sure of the status of that. Two racks are planned for the new safety building and the rest need to be designated yet. Gerold has a larger rack for Reibe Park so there is no need to place one there. We discussed the places that see more bike traffic. The malls will probably each get one, the depot, the ice cream shop, Dairy Queen, etc. Fuhrman said that the way finding signs from the SHIP grant have been ordered.

Great Northern Trail Grant Received: Fuhrman reported that the grant request for \$75,000 was approved with the reminder that a 25% match is required from the park board. There was further discussion by board members as to what would be covered by the project and issues such as monitoring it for safety. Also how it would tie in with the trail from Elk River was discussed and from there a trail along Rum River Drive on the north side to Northland Drive.

As a side note Suhsen reported that the 4R board received a \$5000 grant which is going towards fund raising efforts to generate the \$300,000 needed to pave a trail from Kunkle Wildlife Management area west of Princeton to the Wal-Mart / fairgrounds area of town.

OLD BUSINESS

Mark Park: Several areas have been vandalized again (graffiti and ripping up of paving blocks). Frederick reported that it's a tough area to patrol and the cameras didn't catch enough to help. The police department is discussing having nearby residents to be more proactive with calling in activity at the park. Zimmer reported that he was not able to spark much interest from the baseball association to help with the cost of trees for the batter's sight line. He's going to look into other options.

Splash Park: Gerold reported that there have been some minor repairs. It's been very busy lately. There have been some complaints about the fact that everyone entering the gate has to pay now. Suhsen said he had heard that too. We discussed alternatives to consider for next season but we want to keep it simple. Also there was discussion that most similar type parks require payment by everyone entering.

Riverside Park: The camp hosts continue to do a great job and now they have volunteered other work and are painting the bathrooms and staining the picnic tables among other things. Gerold also mentioned that the free dumping at Marathon gas for Riverside Park campground users has been going fine with just a couple exceptions, nothing serious.

Rainbow Park: Still clean-up from storm damage to do.

Reibe Park: Gerold reported that the sign is nearing completion; it would at most be lit with solar powered lights. The fabricator had to source 10' aluminum sheet for the sign to fit between the pillars and that took some time. Gerold also has checked into a composting latrine for the park. DNR approval will be needed but since it is all above ground, that might be easier. He also has been in contact with someone who might donate a unit as a demo.

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Pioneer Park: Mosquitoes are bad (as they are everywhere) and Gerold said they're doing what they can but the mosquito count is way higher than normal and he hopes his budget holds up to continue mosquito control.

Riverview Park: The park is finally drying out. As a side note Gerold offered that the hiring of Jim Sinkle has been great for public works. His knowledge from grounds keeping at the golf course for so many years has been good, for example, for better use of water in the parks cutting down water bills as a result.

MISCELLANEOUS

Civic Center: Chapman asked that the civic center park be added to each month's agenda. Gerold agreed and mentioned that the Legion has been looking into not only funding the remainder of the reconstruction of the civic center but also adding on an area large enough for offices and a larger meeting room for their own use, should the VFW close.

Adjournment There being no further discussion, Chapman made a motion to adjourn. Suhsen seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:59.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary