

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

Vice chairperson Carla Vita called the meeting to order at 6:00. Members present were Bob Beattie, Blake Broding, Mary Chapman, Scott Suhsen and Carla Vita. Absent was Todd Frederick. Also present were Bob Gerold and Jules Zimmer.

Mark Karnowski joined us to swear in our new member Chris Pruett.

Minutes for September 23, 2013, Meeting

Chapman made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Broding seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

We were joined by Reid Eggen. As part of his high school government class he presented some ideas on how Mark Park might be improved to perhaps appeal to older kids and improve the park in appearance and perhaps reduce issues with vandalism and underage occurrences at the park. His concern are that the park could be spiffed up and that it doesn't appeal to older kids. He suggested surrounding the playground area with timbers and filling the enclosed area with chopped rubber instead of wood chips. His costs for the chopped rubber were high, especially with regards to the wood chips which a significant portion are donated by Sylva.

Eggen suggested removing one softball field and replacing it with a basketball court and / or tennis courts which older kids might use. He also mentioned a swimming pool as an option. It was pointed out that there were basketball courts already at Rainbow and Civic Center Parks and a half court at Mark Park (which Eggen pointed out was not real accessible and lacked a net on the basket).

Zimmer offered that little things like the net could be done. Gerold outlined the project in progress right now to terrace and add sidewalks in some of the areas that Eggen was mentioning. Sand burrs and other issues had been deliberately addressed less than normal since the work being done now would be taking care of those issues.

Pruett pointed out that the tennis courts at the high school are often not in use as it is. Suhsen & Zimmer pointed out that the softball fields are extensively used so that losing one was not really an option.

Vita made a point that the input from Eggen was valued and to not be discouraged. She praised them for taking the time to bring their ideas to the park board. She encouraged them (four other high school students were also in attendance) to feel free to bring ideas to the park. The board is especially open to any ideas that might discourage vandalism in the parks.

REPORTS BY STAFF

Mark Park: Gerold reported that the terracing has been started and their making good progress. Weather permitting, they may even get the sidewalk and steps in yet this fall. Vandalism continues to be a big issue; a couple people have been caught and that might help with the issue. Gerold asked the board for an opinion on what to re-roof the Solheim Field concession building with, asphalt or steel? After some discussion the board members felt the slightly higher cost of steel was worth the longer life and it would match the roofs of the other buildings in that area.

Splash Park: Lee Ann Hartigan joined us to present her year end summary of the splash park operation. Paid attendance was up and that might mostly have been due to the fact we are now charging for ALL persons entering the splash park. Included in her report was a breakdown of the methods of promotion and what worked and what didn't. The Tuesday After Hours program worked well on what had been the slowest night of the week in the past so she plans on continuing with that. The total income of over \$32,000 was in line with what we have had previous years. Without an expense report from Steve Jackson though the final numbers and summary don't completely convey the final outcome.

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Splash Park (continued): Hartigan said that the new process for handling party reservations pretty much removed all problems that had been had in the past.

Riverside Park: Gerold said that the Dunn monument was put in place by the county with just a little work left to do like sod restoration which will be completed in the spring.

Rainbow Park: Gerold said there has been little activity lately. Broding said that there has been a 4-wheeler in the park, probably owned by someone new to the community and not knowing that it wasn't allowed.

Reibe Park: Gerold reported that the bench donated by Fairview has been put inside the dog fence. Pruet mentioned how nice it is to have the disc course and that it is free.

Pioneer Park: Gerold reported the park has been busy lately and the Mark Schneider bench has been put back in place.

Riverview Park: Nothing to report.

Civic Center Park: Gerold reported that the park is getting used and suspects that some new residents with kids have moved into the area. He brought up that the Legion is interested in possibly donating a large sum of money towards completion of the remodeling of the civic center with the possibility that they would use and perhaps even add onto the building in the future.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

MISCELLANEOUS

By-Laws: We reviewed a set of by-laws from 1983 which Chapman brought up were different from the ones she had originally found from 1981. The specific difference was with regards to the roles and responsibilities of the officers which was in the 1981 version but not the 1983. We discussed the point of that and whether Robert's Rules covered that issue. No one was sure about that. Chapman made a motion that we would accept the 1983 by-laws with the addition of the officer responsibilities added in if Robert's Rules, as determined by city staff, did not cover that. Suhsen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Next meeting: Vita mentioned that chairperson Frederick had asked her to bring up for consideration that the need for a December meeting be discussed at the next meeting. Typically we don't have a December meeting due to the holidays.

Adjournment There being no further discussion, Chapman made a motion to adjourn. Broding seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:05.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary