

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

Chairperson Todd Frederick called the meeting to order at 6:03. Members present were Bob Beattie, Blake Broding, Mary Chapman, Todd Frederick, Scott Suhsen and Carla Vita. Absent was Chris Prueett  
Also present was Bob Gerold.

**Minutes for October 25, 2013, Meeting**

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

We were joined Carie Fuhrman to summarize some work that has been done on a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant. Staff has asked the city council to consider using this to connect the trail terminus by the new water treatment plant, along Rum River Drive to Northland Avenue and then to Fairview, to connect with their trails there, and then along the old railroad bed to Mark Park and the depot. The project would cost about \$613,000 and the grant would require a 20% match. The purpose of the presentation was to see if the park board had any concerns or reservations about the project. Fuhrman will pursue the grant further and look into what can constitute the 20% match and how else the 20% could be funded as well as if it could be done over a couple years. As it would be right now if everything were to fall in place the completion probably wouldn't be until 2015. Sherburne County has agreed to be the sponsor, even for that part in Mille Lacs.

Gerold brought up that the school maybe could be involved in the costs as the trail will connect with the school area. Frederick pointed out that the school makes students walk to Mark Park and the arena instead of offering bus service and this would be great for that. Suhsen mentioned Safe Ways to School for funding as well. Frederick also thought that Fairview might be interested in helping as they are adding to their own trail system and a number of people from there walk on breaks as well.

There was general consensus from the board to proceed with this. The main questions were with regards to the 20% match and Fuhrman was going to look into the specifics of that more as she submits the letter of intent.

**REPORTS BY STAFF**

**Mark Park:** Gerold is looking into playground equipment changes to make the equipment more interactive and at the same time updated and compliant. Frederick mentioned that the landscaping wall is looking good. Gerold said that West Branch construction moved excess topsoil from the new safety building to the area being landscaped in Mark Park at no cost. The top cap on the wall, sprinkler system and a poured concrete sidewalk from the picnic shelter to the splash park will be done in spring.

Chapman asked about the roof on the ball field building and Gerold reported that the contractor who would do it is too busy right now but might get to it in 3 or 4 months.

There has been some vandalism again with about \$3000 damage including a security camera. The 4 who caused the damage were caught. One of the issues they're trying to address is that the 7 cameras in the park now, overload the recording system so that older information might be discarded before the police have a chance to recognize a need to review it. They are looking into options for another hard drive and other ways of updating the system.

**Splash Park:** Nothing to report – ready for winter.

**Page 2 – Regular Meeting – Princeton Parks & Recreation Board, November 26, 2013**

**Riverside Park:** Gerold said that the picnic tables have been stored in the picnic shelter for the winter and to protect them in case of spring floods. The hosts have left but want to be hosts again next year.

**Rainbow Park:** Gerold reported that dead trees are being cleaned up.

**Reibe Park:** Gerold reported that the park remains busy and several board members mentioned the same.

**Pioneer Park:** Nothing to report.

**Riverview Park:** Nothing to report.

**Civic Center Park:** Gerold mentioned that the Legion has donated \$100,000 towards the remodeling of the civic center with the intent of becoming the primary tenant. Chapman asked if the ice rink would be flooded soon; both Gerold and Frederick said that without sufficient cold weather, flooding would only take the frost out and make it impossible to get ice. Until the weather cooperates they won't be able to do anything.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

After a very brief discussion Broding made a motion to cancel the December meeting. Beattie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**By-Laws:** We received updated copies of the bylaws and reviewed the changes. Chapman made a motion to approve the updated by-laws. Motion was seconded by Suhsen. Motion passed.

**PAVC & 4R board updates:** Suhsen reported that both PAVC and 4R are working on funding, the PAVC for the Riverside Park / Amphitheater project and the 4R for the Kunkel refuge to Princeton hike & bike trail. Both have grant writers working for them and also looking at other funding sources.

**Board Member Terms:** The terms for Vita, Frederick and Beattie are expiring and Gerold handed each paperwork to complete by early December if they wish to continue on the board. Vita asked if there were term limits to which the answer was no.

**Adjournment** There being no further discussion, Chapman made a motion to adjourn. Vita seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:39.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary