

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Princeton Parks & Recreation Board
Held on January 23, 2012, in the Chambers of City Hall

Dick Dobson called the meeting to order at 6:30 as Chairperson Broding was running late and Vice Chairperson Frederick was absent. Broding joined us midway thru election of officers. Members present were Bob Beattie, Blake Broding, Mary Chapman, Cheryl Goetz, Scott Suhsen and Carla Vita. Absent was Todd Frederick. Also present were Bob Gerold, Dick Dobson and Carie Fuhrman.

Election of Officers:

Goetz made a motion to nominate Broding for Chairperson. Vita seconded the motion. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed and a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Chapman nominated Vita for Vice Chairperson. Goetz seconded the motion. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed and a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Vita nominated Suhsen for Secretary. Goetz seconded the motion. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed and a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes for November 28, 2011, Meeting

Vita made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 28th meeting. Chapman seconded the motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mark Park:

Gerold reported that he has a lead on timers for the softball fields that would be operated by tokens purchased from city hall. The use of tokens would decrease the temptation for anyone to vandalize them since they won't have actual money in them.

Splash Park:

Broding commented that he will be getting together with Leanne Hartigan

Riverside and Rainbow Parks:

Nothing to report.

Riebe Park:

Gerold reported that the dog fence is up. It was originally planned to be a rectangle but the riverside was left open so that if an owner wished, they could let their dogs go in the river. The fences don't run right to the river as they wanted to see the effects of the river at flood level on the fence before running it out further. If it doesn't work out then the river side could be fenced in as well. Suhsen suggested that a fence could be run across the middle of the rectangle with a gate in it that would allow those owners who wish to let their dogs thru to the river.

Gerold has a water fountain the shop along with two fire hydrants as doggie decorations. We discussed adding benches, picnic tables and possibly a grill or two. For the upcoming season a porta potty will probably be all that we offer although long term a permanent structure would be favored.

Dobson offered that he had someone that might donate plastic bags for dog park users. Beattie and Broding both mentioned seeing the disc course still getting used.

Pioneer Park:

Broding reported that he had gotten contact information for the eagle scout who had mapped out Pioneer Park. Gerold asked him to get a PDF of the map and get it to Kate Hunter at city hall so that maps can be printed out and posted at Pioneer Park.

Riverview Park: Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Grant Application:

Fuhrman summarized the results of the recent grant application for money to pave the bike path from the new water treatment plant to 313th. We were not awarded the grant; we were one of many that applied and the available funds were less than ¼ of the sum of the applications submitted. Three different grant programs were suggested as alternatives and we discussed the pros and cons of each from Fuhrman's perspective given the information she got during the process. There is a Regional Trail program, a Local Trail Connections program and a Legacy Trail Grant Program. Each has slightly different criteria and features. Vita made a motion for Fuhrman to pursue a Local Trails grant for the sum of \$100,000 with the park board prepared to meet the match of 25% or \$25,000. Beattie seconded the motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Comprehensive Plan:

Fuhrman presented a draft of the plan process for board members to review along with a couple different grant programs that might be approached for funding for completion of the plan. The two grant programs are Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) and Initiative Foundation. Vita made a motion for city staff to pursue both grant programs to best cover the cost of creating and documenting the comprehensive plan. Suhsen seconded the motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

As a side note, Suhsen brought up that Mille Lacs County is beginning a countywide comprehensive plan itself. The first meeting was January 19th. Attendance was sparse and several attendees were from neighboring Baldwin township in Sherburne County. Fuhrman offered additional details as well as an offer to anyone interested in getting involved to get in touch with her.

MISCELLANEOUS

Suhsen passed around a plaque awarded to PAVC as Civic Group of the Year. He pointed out that working with the park board helped them in getting that award. Chapman summarized some of the other awards that the Chamber of Commerce is awarding.

Vita mentioned to Gerold that some thought should be initiated for recognition at the DSA banquet in June.

Fuhrman brought up that at this morning's PAVC meeting there was discussion about applying for Legacy grant money for building the amphitheater. During the discussion a question about whether the campground would be moved came up. Fuhrman wished to confirm that the park board had no plans at present to move the campground from Riverside Park. Suhsen brought up that at one time there was the possibility that additional land south of Riebe Park might be added to the park and that piece of land might have been appropriate for a campground and would have been accessible thru Riebe Park. That has not happened though so there has been no further discussion in that direction. Moving camping to Rainbow Park had been discussed as well but that also did not happen for other reasons. Dobson pointed out that the present location was nice in that campers had access to, and used, the downtown businesses.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Chapman made a motion to adjourn. Suhsen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:15.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary