

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Princeton Parks & Recreation Board
Held on April 28, 2014, in the Chambers of City Hall

Chairperson Todd Frederick called the meeting to order at 6:00. Members present were Blake Broding, Todd Frederick, Chris Pruett, Scott Suhsen and Carla Vita. Absent was Bob Beattie. Also absent was Mary Chapman. Also attending were Jill Papesh, Bob Gerold and Jules Zimmer.

Mary Chapman resignation: Vita made a motion to accept Mary Chapman's resignation. Second by Suhsen. Motion passed unanimously.

Jill Papesh Oath of Office: Papesh could not be sworn in because Mark Karnowski was not present to administer the oath.

Minutes for March 24, 2014, Meeting

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

NEW BUSINESS

TAP Grant: Gerold and Suhsen briefed the board on the TAP grant awarded to the city for the trail from the new water treatment plant, across Rum River Drive, to Northland Drive, along Northland to the Fairview area where it will cross to the old railroad bed and then head to the depot. The grant award is for \$509,000 but requires a \$250,000 match from the city. The grant is to be completed by July of 2017.

REPORTS BY STAFF

Mark Park: Gerold reported that the water lines are going to be opened up soon. The landscaping project is moving along. Sidewalks and steps will be poured concrete. Frederick commented that the retaining wall looks good. He asked about irrigation and Gerold said that there would be irrigation put in as the landscaping nears completion. Broding brought up that he had heard complaints about the bathrooms in Mark Park and heard the comment that the portable toilet by Solheim was an improvement over the permanent facilities. There was discussion about the frequent vandalism and the difficulty of keeping everything operations. Gerold said he does have someone cleaning the bathrooms every morning.

Splash Park: Gerold said that the splash park is getting put back together. Mark Antchzak (Boss Control) will be putting in a couple new valves and a new tank sensor. They can't do too much though until the water gets turned back on. The ad for the splash park got missed in the most recent Focus so we discussed alternatives.

Riverside Park: The Ritenours are on their way back from Arizona to host again this year. They may have to stay outside of the park to begin with due to flooding. There was some recent vandalism done by a person on a 4-wheeler; that person was caught and once the water has receded the damage will be assessed to determine if charges will be filed. Pruett asked about whether the playground equipment needed to be cleaned after flooding; Gerold said that usually mostly what has to be done is to put some new wood chips down but the equipment itself is good.

Rainbow Park: Broding said the park is getting used and he hasn't heard any complaints about anything happening there.

Reibe Park: Gerold said that recent flooding had taken down fencing but it is a relatively easy fix for city staff.

Pioneer Park: Nothing to report.

Riverview Park: There is nothing to report other than the park is flooded.

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Civic Center Park: Gerold said the Legion will be adding a storage shed to the back of the building. A couple board members asked about the design of the shed and if it would fit with the civic center. Gerold was confident that it would fit with the building. Gerold is getting quotes for the HVAC system. He is hoping that the building, other than maybe the kitchen, will be usable by fall.

OLD BUSINESS

Skating and Hockey Association: There was some discussion about the plans the hockey association have for an outside rink as well as what arena usage is and whether there is much free time (unsold) in the arena. The discussion ended up basically informational with little relationship to the city park board.

Maple Grove Skate Park: Frederick brought up that he has recently seen a newer skate park in Maple Grove that was all concrete, so basically indestructible. He was looking into costs a little more. Suhsen brought up that his home town had done a similar facility about 15 years ago and it had cost about \$80,000 then.

MISCELLANEOUS

PAVC & 4R board updates: Suhsen said that little has changed since last meeting – still working on funding and grant writing. The PAVC is concentrating more on the Riverside Park Project with the amphitheater as more of a long range goal for the park.

Park Pamphlet: We briefly discussed the pamphlet that had been put together for distribution at the business expo. Frederick brought up that city hall can print them as we need them and if any board member had a need for any to distribute, they should let Shawna Jenkins know. Board members brought up several places where they could be left that the general public would be able to pick them up.

Pool Request: Gerold and Frederick brought up that a small group of high school kids had approached the city about a project to get an outside pool. They had a power point presentation and were well prepared. They even had ideas on fund raising. Board members were pleased to see the local youth showing interest in the parks. Gerold said that the kids had cited a couple examples of other communities with pools and he asked them to research when their pools were put in and how much it cost to put in and how much the communities spent on upkeep each year. It's not that he wanted to discourage them but he wanted them to get a better idea of the scope of such a project.

Park Ideas: Suhsen asked about putting a tether ball in one or more of the parks; they are low cost although they might be susceptible to vandalism. Gerold is going to look into it more. Suhsen also shared a photo of a plastic culvert being put into a playground and thought it might be good and relatively cheap addition for playgrounds in Princeton. Gerold is going to look into that as well.

Next Meeting: The next meeting would fall on Memorial Day if not changed. There was some discussion about the appropriate alternatives. Suhsen made a motion to have the May meeting on May 19th at the regular time. Vita seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Adjournment There being no further discussion, Vita made a motion to adjourn. Pruet seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:50.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary