August 26, 2019 Park & Recreation Minutes

Park Board Members Present: Blake Broding, Travis Koenen, Jill Papesh, Robert Peters, Jacquilien Strandberg, Dan Voce, and Carla Vita. Others: Stephanie Hillesheim, Tim Jensen, Dan Pierce, Rhonda Pierce and Jules Ziller. Absent: None

1. Call to Order.
Call to order at 6:00pm

2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 22, 2019
Peters motioned, seconded by Strandberg to approve as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

3. New Business
Papesh brought up the bad press on the park recently. Hillesheim stated that the issues were over-blown on social media as she saw and was present to see the situation. Hillesheim informed that when a situation arises, public works is on-call on weekends and nights. Jensen stated that when he is informed and they promptly handle the situation. Discussion on an event policy to ensure that parks after events are cleaned. Vita discussed the process at the City in which she works and will forward the special event application to Hillesheim for their information.

4. Reports by Staff
A. Mark Park
1) Outfield Fence has been scheduled
Jensen informed that overflow parking installation is complete and lines painted. Zimmer indicated the need for a sign.

Jensen also stated that he plans to plant two more trees.

B. Splash Park
Pierce stated that the splash pad is running well and State inspections passed.

Pierce stated that Monday, September, 1, 2019 is the last day of the season. Many days were too cold and rainy for the successful operation of the splash pad. Next year she plans to add more staff, decrease shift length for staff and work to find non-school age kids to work at the park when school is in session. Voce stated that for more kids, she could call the high school guidance office. Koenen stated that the swim team is another idea for those interested in working. Papesh stated that social media also gets the word out for job openings.

C. Riverside Park.
1) Request from staff for on-line reservations – Tab B
Hillesheim requested that the park board reconsider online reservations for camping in the parks. Reservations would take place both on-line and City Hall. The library has free internet for those without internet wanting reservations when City Hall is closed. Another option is reserving on cell phones. Hillesheim stated that numerous people call city hall wanting reservations to ensure a campsite. The system will not cost the city for fees. The cost will increase the cost for camping by 3%. Considerable conversation took place on ensuring no overbooking takes place; state park reservations, signage to alert people on free internet at the library, keeping 1 or 2 spaces available for those without reservations, etc.
Motion by Voce, seconded by Koenen to allow for a combination of walk-in and on-line reservations (2 walk-in, 6 on-line) reservations on a trial basis. Public Works to erect a sign to alert to the change to educate those coming to the campsites. Motion carried 6 – 1 (Peters, nay.)

D. Rainbow Park
1) Eagle Scout project is moving forward Boy Scout Alex Nutt built the structure and it looks great. Conversation on public acknowledgment at a City Council meeting. Hillesheim to let Broding and Vita know to let the Boy Scout and troop make arrangements.

E. Riebe Park
1) Cutting and treating buckthorn

F. Pioneer Park
1) Cutting and treating buckthorn

G. Riverview Terrace Nature Park
1) Treating buckthorn

H. Civic Center Park
Jensen is placing woodchips at the playground and moving the triangular structure. Hillesheim is working on upgrades for the 2020 CIP.

Pierce requested where to store the pickleball items he is donating. Voce stated that pickleball is a great recreational sport and getting the word out on the opportunity is important. Ideas are Facebook, City website, etc. Papesh stated that a newspaper article is also important. Hillesheim stated that they are looking at locking systems to store. Vita stated that in the City in which she works, items such as pickleball can be picked up at City Hall. It works well. Jensen stated that the cost for items is approximately $15. The board agreed that making the pickleball items accessible and getting the word out should be priorities of Staff.

5. Old Business
None.

6. Miscellaneous
None.

7. Adjourn
Motion by Broding, second by Voce to adjourn at 7:20pm. Motion carried unanimously.