Minutes of Regular Meeting
Princeton Parks & Recreation Board

We did not have enough members for quorum so we had an informal discussion.

Members present were Blake Broding, Jill Papesh and Scott Suhsen. Absent were Chris Pruett and Carla Vita. We have two open positions on the board at present. Also in attendance were Tim Jenson, Jules Zimmer and Jolene Foss.

**Eagle Scout Project:** Dillon Leiding approached the board about doing an Eagle Scout project in Pioneer Park. He first suggested the idea of putting steps in where the entrance into the park is so steep. Jenson said that the configuration as it is right now was done to make the park handicap accessible. When asked about having steps and the ramp, Jenson said there really isn't room. Leiding's second idea was to redo the workout stations in the park. Jenson mentioned that was on the public works to-do list. He offered that they could help with equipment like cement mixer, post hole digger, etc. Leiding was asked to put together plans with drawings and photos and get a bill of materials with pricing from Marv's for the next board meeting. It was suggested to look on line for ideas for what other cities have in their parks and also to look at what the hospital has on their grounds along the path on their grounds.

**Little Free Libraries:** Faith Groenner approached the board about the possibility of placing Little Free Libraries in some of the city parks. She explained the program, that libraries have been built (by Zachary Gruba as an Eagle Scout project) and just need to be set up. There was consensus that Mark Park was not a good location as it was almost certain to get vandalized. Papish suggested Triangle Park and Suhsen also thought Civic Center Park, right near the Civic Center itself. We discussed other locations and Groenner was asked about the school district participating; she said the district has one and it probably would go by the district offices. Zimmer also suggested putting one by the teen center.

**Great Northern Trail:** Jolene Foss a program called Bikeable Community Workshop. It's a full day event that educates and encourages biking in a community. We discussed the progress of the Great Northern Trail and that the three counties that would have portions of the trail are getting together to try to get the trail designated as a regional trail which would help with getting funding to complete the trail. We discussed where we had determined biking should be done in town (which streets would be designated as the safest routes). We discussed the continuation of the trail from the water treatment plant along Rum River Drive (on the north west side) to McDonald's and then along Northland Drive to the hospital and then north to the depot. Suhsen suggested that we table the idea of a Bikeable Community Workshop until after that trail is completed. Part of a Bikeable Community Workshop is a 5 mile ride and if the next part of the trail is finished, biking from one end at the depot to the end by 313rd and back would be about 5 miles.

**Staff / Project Updates:** Jenson filled us in on a few things:
- **Splash Park:** the large main feature is going to be lifted out with a crane and taken for repainting.
- **Cameras Mark Park:** They're looking at putting in more cameras to help provide more security. There has been more vandalism lately including to the entry sign. Jenson suggested to Zimmer that the Solheim baseball field should have a camera that points towards the park entry and towards the ball field.
- **Rainbow Park:** There was vandalism there as well with painting on the new playground equipment and plexiglass broken out of a tube slide. The staff has removed the rest of the dead oaks in the park.
- **Riverview Terrace:** They are going to rent a brush hog to use to reduce the brush in the park.
- **Benches for Civic Center Park:** The Rotary Club has donated $1500 for benches for Civic Center Park. Jenson is happy to be able to replace the old benches in that park. Papesh asked to make sure that the style of the new benches would match the ones we have been getting.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary

**Next Meeting:** Next meeting is February 27, 2017.