Minutes of Regular Meeting
Princeton Parks & Recreation Board
Held on February 27, 2017, in the chambers of city hall.

Members present were Blake Broding, Jill Papesh, Chris Pruett, Scott Suhsen, Carla Vita and city appointed member Jules Zimmer. NOTE: we are still a board member short. Also in attendance was Bob Gerold. The meeting was called to order by acting Chairperson Vita at 6:00.

Swearing in of members: Vita was sworn in for a new term. Zimmer was appointed by the city council and didn't have to be sworn in.

Election of Officers: Zimmer nominated Vita for Chairperson; second by Suhsen. Vita declined the position. Broding nominated Papesh for Chairperson; second by Pruett. Pruett accepted and a vote was taken; motion passed and Papesh assumed the chair. Pruett made a motion for Vita to be vice chairperson; second by Suhsen. Vita accepted and a vote was taken; motion passed. Suhsen was asked to be secretary; he declined. Zimmer nominated Pruett for the position; second by Broding. Motion passed.

Minutes for October 24, 2016, Meeting
Vita made a motion to approve the October 24, 2016, meeting minutes. Second by Broding. Motion passed.

Park Fee Review: We reviewed the fee schedules for Riverside Camping, Splash Park, Civic Center and Mark Park ball fields. There were a few questions answered by Gerold. Suhsen made a motion to leave the fees as they are; second by Pruett. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion carried. Gerold was asked about the hosts for Riverside and he said as far as he was aware, they are planning on returning this year.

Reports by Staff:
Mark Park: Gerold is probably going to replace the sign at the park entrance due to extensive vandalism. The cost will be about $400. Vandalism on other areas will be addressed as well including possibly painting the insides of the ball park dug outs to cover spray paint there although Gerold wants to look at it to see if there is something that can be done. Pruett asked about getting more benches in the park and Gerold said that he had CIP money set aside just for that purpose.
Splash Park: Gerold reported that when the large main feature was removed for painting as planned, inspection revealed some serious issues with the valves. Replacing the fixture would be prohibitively expensive so they are going to remove the valves, that the kids can operate, and replace them with direct plumbing. That means that all parts will be operating when the fixture is turned on; Gerold said there is plenty of pumping capacity to handle it. The Splash Park will open for Memorial weekend and the following weekend and then open for weekdays as soon as school is out.
Riverside Park: Gerold reported that they are planning to build the new bathrooms by Design Build to keep costs down. Zimmer pointed out that the bathroom project as well as a bridge to Reibe Park and redoing the canoe landing were all on the city priority list.
Rainbow Park: Gerold said that Citizen Pruners, volunteers, had been pruning the trees to raise the canopy. This project was headed by Sherbume Soil and Water. Broding pointed out that the picnic shelter plans that had been sent out in January were still being considered as a Lions project with most of the funding coming from the Lions. Pruett expressed concern for little kids running from the playground towards the nearby road and asked if a fence couldn't be put up to prevent possible accidents. There was a lot of discussion about the subject including costs, staying out of highway right of way and other solutions. It was brought up that the size of the ditch would be an impediment to little kids making such a dash. Zimmer said that while Pruett's concerns were understood, there were limits to what could be done. The police chief had looked at whether there were accidents in that area and found nothing in perhaps fifteen years.
Riebe, Riverview Terrace, Pioneer Park: Gerold reported that they had rented a machine and aggressively attacked the brush, particularly buck thorn and prickly ash in those three parks. Several board members mentioned how good it looked.
PAVC: Suhsen reported that the original plans put together by the city engineers was not a workable plan and that PAVC is trying to see if there was any chance of some compensation for that. To do an amphitheater and band shell configuration similar to what was originally planned, the whole thing would have to be turned and moved to the south east. Instead, the PAVC board has decided by motion and vote to instead, build a smaller band shell on the top of the well house hill. There is already a concrete foundation there that might be built upon. For the amphitheater, the plan is now to smooth the hillside where the original seating was planned including removing the area of box elders and brush in the middle of the hill. That in itself will be an improvement to the park. The seating then would be on blankets on the hill or on chairs at the bottom of the hill.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Suhsen made a motion to adjourn. Second by Zimmer. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:05.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary

Next Meeting: Next meeting is March 27, 2017.