Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Princeton Parks & Recreation Board  
Held on June 27, 2016, in Rainbow Park.

Chairperson Todd Frederick called the meeting to order at 6:03. Members present were Blake Broding, Todd Frederick, Jill Papesh, Chris Pruett, Scott Suhsen and Carla Vita. Absent was Bob Beattie. Also in attendance were Bob Gerold and Jules Zimmer.

Minutes for May 23, 2016, Meeting  
Pruett made a motion to approve the minutes for May 23rd, 2016. Broding seconded the motion. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS  
No new business.

REPORTS BY STAFF  
Mark Park: Gerold reported that Mark Antchzak with Boss Control will be installing several cameras and better recording equipment later this week. Frederick mentioned the park looks great and is getting used a lot. Pruett offered praise for the park as well as that he has heard many positive comments as well. Zimmer mentioned that 1/3 of the outside of the outfield fence on the baseball field has been painted so far.

Splash Park: Gerold reported that Mega Bucket has been installed and is working. A video has been placed on the city Face Book page and the staff is getting compliments on it. Frederick mentioned all the other pieces have been repainted and look great. Pruett asked if there was anything that could be done to the brick around the perimeter as they are a bit slippery; Gerold is going to look into it, possibly some sort of paint, as long as it doesn't seal the seams between the bricks which were purposeful for keeping water from getting from the splash pad to the grass.

Riverside Park: Our camp host resigned due to his wife's illness. Shawn Jenkins has posted an ad for a replacement. Board members were asked to keep it in mind if they thought of someone that might be the host. Frederick commented it's unfortunate to lose the host; as a former reserve officer the communication link was helpful. Frederick added that having the host really has kept control of things in the park.

The Department of Health has raised the issue of the safety of the river water. Samples have revealed high levels of bacteria; they don't pose a threat to the city drinking water but it is an issue for recreational use like swimming. There is a meeting at Princeton Township Hall this Wednesday regarding this issue; Frederick is going to try to go to that.

Rainbow Park: A large part of the South Elementary playground equipment has been installed and it looks great and has increased the park use tremendously. The board was complimentary of the work the city staff did with the equipment. Gerold said the staff was happy to do the work and enjoyed the challenges and changes from their normal jobs. There are pieces for younger kids to go in a separate area when there is time for staff to do that and after that the remainder will go into Civic Center Park but probably not until August.

Pruett mentioned we need benches around the playground area so parents don't need to stand and watch. Frederick brought up more lighting and he is going to check with PUC what can be done; the lighting is perhaps more for users than abusers as there haven't been as many problems in the park with the increased use.

Suhsen asked if photos have been taken and added to the city website – it’s being worked on.

Pruett asked about getting a drinking fountain for the park. Gerold is looking at the city dedicating money to refurbish the bathroom building that has been closed for several years due to vandalism. If that is done, a fountain could be added and perhaps even a dog watering bowl. Pruett suggested a porta potty for this year if possible and Gerold is going to look into that.
Rainbow Park (continued): Pruett voiced concern over traffic and the potential for a car to leave the highway and cause problems and asked if a barrier of some sort might be necessary. Both Gerold and Frederick said that there haven't been problems in that stretch of road and that a barrier erected by the city isn't an option since the structures were erected just outside the highway right of way. Frederick mentioned the possibility of decreasing the posted speed limit to the 30 mph that is just down the street a ways.

Reibe Park: Gerold reported that there had been some recent storm damage with a couple trees down and damage to a fence. The trees have been cleaned up and the fence repaired. The park is getting used.

Pioneer Park: Nothing to report. There haven't been any problems yet this year with mosquitoes so they haven't had to spray yet.

Riverview Terrace Nature Park: Gerold asked if there is a need for a fat tire bike trail. There was some discussion about what it would entail to create such a trail. A better or more clear entrance would have to be made. Parking would be an issue although Gerold that space could be created if needed. After much discussion, Suhsen suggested that since both Milaca and Elk River already have trails, there might not be enough of a need.

Civic Center Park: Gerold said it would probably be August before the remaining playground pieces would be installed there.

OLD BUSINESS
Survey: Board members had a long discussion about having a survey of park use and desires. Suhsen brought up that PAVC had a similar conversation in that getting information would help get grant money. Also, by finding out where people are coming from to use Princeton's parks can indicate that ours is a regional destination, not just a local destination and that would help with grants as well. He also was given a lead by Richard Baker on an organization that might be able to help with a survey but hasn't had time to follow up on it. Basically we decided to keep potential survey questions in mind for further discussion at a later date.

Garbage Cans: Gerold reported that he had gotten four garbage cans to Carol Ossell at her request. She still wants to see them painted for in the parks and has someone that will do it.

MISCELLANEOUS
PAVC update: Suhsen said PAVC had received $1000 from the Sterling Pointe garage sale in addition to a couple other donations. Also, as mentioned earlier, PAVC members had discussed a survey to find out more where people were from and what their expectations were.

Vita asked about having a Rainbow Park Grand Opening. When more has been done we will discuss.

Pruett asked about a get together with Bob's crew like we did last year as a way to connect again with them and show our appreciation for their work. We'll discuss more in the future.

Next Meeting Location: Our next meeting will be at Riverside Park.

Adjournment There being no further discussion, Vita made a motion to adjourn. Broding seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:01.

Respectfully submitted - Scott Suhsen / Secretary

Next Meeting: The next meeting is July 25, 2016 at Riverside Park.