Minutes of Regular Meeting
Princeton Parks and Recreation Board

Held on March 27, 2017, in the chambers of city hall.

Members present were Scott Suhsen, Karla Vita, Jill Papesh, Jules Zimmer, Blake Broding, Chris Pruett. Note: we are still a board member short. Also in attendance was Bob Gerald. The meeting was called to order by acting Chairperson Vita at 6:01 PM.

Minutes for February 27, 2017
Papesh made a motion amend last months minutes to change the second line of the “Election of Officers” due to a typo where it read “Pruett accepted,” instead of “Papesh accepted.” Vita seconded. Motion passed.

Reports by staff:
Mark Park:
Report given by Bob Gerald. Taking care of graffiti. Getting ready for annual Easter egg hunt hosted by Local radio station. New park sign has been ordered.

Splash park:
Call into equipment company for time table on new main feature. Hopefully will have this new piece by the end of April for Memorial Weekend.

Riverside Park:
New Restrooms. Gerald is inquiring if they can tear existing structure down and build new bathrooms with a sealed lift station (due to flooding in the spring). Needs DNR approval. Would still be a one-occupant restroom. Papesh asked if whole pad needed to be taken out. Gerald said the entire structure would need to be replaced. With Block walls, could serve as a very small storm shelter. Gerald hasn’t heard back from camp host yet, but hoping to hear from him in next couple of weeks.
Broding asked on time frame for DNR. Gerald said they waiting to hear back from the DNR. Blake asked what is plan B if this fell through. Gerald said due to floodplain, the bathroom would need to be raised over 6 feet, which would change the cost and the difficulty of this project.

Rainbow Park:
Fire Pit getting used. Lions Shelter wants to build shelter and are trying to find what they have in the budget. 24x24 structure is what they are planning to build. Pruett wondered if the new shelter would block view of parents sitting in their cars watching their kids. Gerald said he would investigate the best spot for the shelter.
Riebe Park:
Scott asked if any trees went down from the storm. Bob said just some limbs went down.
Carla asked about having a check out bag full of disc for people to use. Suhsen and Pruett said that this course has a lot of water and tall grass and might be difficult to get the rented disc back due to these challenging course hazards.

Pioneer Park
Clearing up some trees.

Civic Center Park
Rotary Club gave us funding to purchase a bench. Waiting for nice weather to install a bench.

Old business:
Papesh asked about the status of the Canopy project at Mark Park proposed by Nate (Last name?). Zimmer said no new information has been given. On a side note, Gerald wanted to make sure the fields firm up a bit before baseball teams start using them to prevent damage. Vita wanted to ask if we could honor Todd Frederick who has served on the Park Board for the past seven or so years. Pruett made motion for Gerald to buy plaques for Frederick and Bob Beattie. Second by Vita. Motion passed.

Carol Ossel Report
Proposed new spot for amphitheater. Final grading plan and site plan in 3 weeks. Need to get a permit from planning commission. Then they would need to go before city council on April 20th.
After hearing presentation, Papesh said the Park Board previously voted in a 4-2 decision to stop hearing information on the amphitheater project and to put it on back burner unless something changes from City Council. Ossel shared that there were five new members on the planning team. She also stated due to some water table challenges, that the amphitheater would be moved to higher ground and would no longer require seating. Pruett thanked Ossel for sharing and stated that we have talked about the challenges of running and maintaining this amphitheater in 3 or 4 previous meetings.
Zimmer said that the City Council has a long list of projected projects and not one council member put the amphitheater on the agenda. Ossel pleaded with the Park Board saying downtown businesses need an attraction to draw people downtown. A man in attendance questioned Zimmer and said, “What has the city of Princeton done in the past four years?” Zimmer said the city has done a lot with roads and the water treatment plant. Papesh called the meeting back to order due to it getting off course.

Adjournment
After no further business, Zimmer made motion to adjourn. Second by Pruett. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted -Chris Pruett / Secretary

Next Meeting scheduled for April 24.