

KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Kasson Park Board meeting was duly held at Kasson City Hall on the 12th day of September 2011 at 8:00 A.M.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Sharon Schriever, Joe Fitch, Liza Larsen and Greg Kuball

THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT: Becky Diekman, Mike Marti and Terry Meyers

ALSO PRESENT: Dean Nelson, Park & Rec Supervisor Ron Unger and Secretary Jan Naig

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:16 A.M. by Chairperson Schriever.

II. Approval of minutes: Motion by Kuball and second by Fitch, with all voting Aye, to approve the minutes of the July 2011 meeting.

III. New Business:

A. Dog park representative. A group has been working to establish a dog park in Mantorville. The Mantorville City Council did not approve the location that the group had selected. A member of the group contacted Unger about the possibility of having a dog park in Kasson and Unger recommended that they start by coming to a Park Board meeting. This item was tabled because the representative was not at the meeting.

B. Concession stands operation – Dean & Cindy Nelson. Dean Nelson, KMSA representative, gave the Board a brief overview of the concession stand operations. Since the MN Department of Health tightened up their regulations on what can be sold, the concession stand sales have dropped considerably. Without making changes to the concession stands (stainless steel appliances, counters, etc.) so that more items can be sold, it does not appear that sales will increase. He indicated that finding workers has also become very difficult. He has approached other groups about staffing the stands and sharing the profits - without success. The Nelsons will not be running the stands in 2012. They would like to continue to run the Festival and Marigold Days tournaments.

The Board thanked the Nelsons for all the work they have done to operate the concession stands and to organize and run the tournaments over the years.

C. 2012 Budget items. Unger met with the City's budget committee last week. The only Capital Item budgeted is for repairs to the West Shelter in Veterans Memorial Park. There is \$35,000.00 budgeted for the Park Department at this time- which is mostly for maintenance and repairs.

D. K-M, Byron youth football. The league had their first games on Saturday, September 10th. There are 12 teams in the youth football league so the football field in Veterans Memorial Park was used from 8:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. on Saturday.

E. Outdoor hockey rink. Unger, Kris Anderson and other city workers have been working to repair the boards for the outdoor rink. The plan is to remove the skate park equipment and set the hockey boards in early November.

IV. Old Business:

A. Festival in the Park. Unger recognized Anderson, Jason Van Every and other city staff for the work they did in Veterans Memorial Park to prepare for the Festival. He also complimented Lucas Unger and Brandon Richardson for doing a good job of keeping the garbage controlled in the Park during the Festival weekend. Overall, Festival in the Park went very well.

B. Swimming pool committee update. Two people have joined the committee so there are now seven members working on the exploratory committee. They will be working with U. S. Aquatics to come up with a design plan and feasibility study. The plan is to have a referendum for a vote in the spring of 2012.

C. S.H.I.P. update. The third S.H.I.P. day was Wednesday, August 10th. The total attendance on that day was 172. There were 82 people that did not have a season pass and did not pay admission fees. The total number of free admissions for the three S.H.I.P. days was 450.

D. Music in the Park. There were two concerts scheduled for the Gazebo in Veterans Memorial Park. The Rochester Area Accordion Band was scheduled to perform on July 21st. Due to the heat and humidity, this concert was cancelled. On August 4th Les Fields and the Turkey River All-Stars performed. The Kasson Chamber of Commerce had pop and popcorn available for the attendees. The attendance was only about 60-75 people, but those in attendance were treated to a fun performance.

E. Veterans Park concession stand update. Anderson and Van Every will be installing the steel ceiling in the Veterans Park concession stand this week. Unger also plans to stain the exterior of the stand this fall.

F. Other. A question was asked if the youth recreational programs are using our ball parks as much during the summer. The High School girls' softball teams are no longer using the West Park field. Unger indicated that many of the KMBA and KMGSA recreation programs are using the Mantorville, K-M

School and Dennison fields. Our fields are being used more by traveling teams, which means there are not games played on a given night every week.

Unger also let the Board know that in 2012 the City will not be providing bus service for the Swim Meets. It has become too costly to provide the service for the number of participants in the program.

V. Correspondence: Ingvild Herfindahl, Children's Librarian at the Kasson Public Library, sent a note of thanks to the Park Board for their donation of swim passes for the Summer Reading Program.

VI. Adjourn: Motion by Fitch and second by Larsen, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 A.M.

Chairperson

Secretary