

KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES APRIL 15, 2014

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Kasson Park Board was duly held at the Kasson Public Works Building on the 15th day of April 2014 at 6:00 P.M.

THE FOLLOWING PARK BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Janet Sinning, Terry Meyers, Chuck Coleman, Liza Larsen and Roger Franke

THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT: Greg Kuball and Jason Moritz

ALSO PRESENT: Jerry Struthers, Pat Dibble, Mayor Matt Nelson, City Administrator Randy Lenth, Parks and Recreation Supervisor Ron Unger and Deputy Clerk Jan Naig

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:02 P.M. by Unger.

II. Approve minutes: Motion by Larsen and second by Franke, with all voting Aye, to approve the March 2014 Park Board Minutes.

Additions to the Agenda. Old business-request by Coleman to add Item C. Library project. Request by Unger to add New business: Item G. Free Swim Days request and Correspondence item.

III. New Business:

A. Oath of Office – Janet Sinning. Mayor Nelson has appointed Janet Sinning to fill the vacant position on the Park Board. The oath of office was administered and introductions were made.

B. Pat Dibble – Inclusive Parks presentation. Pat Dibble had forwarded an email to the city which highlights Harpers Playground. Since the City is developing new parks, she would like the Board to consider building an inclusive park. The current parks have adaptive equipment that meets ADA requirements. In an inclusive park the playground equipment and surfaces are made so those with disabilities can play alongside other children. Dibble feels this could be a regional draw since there are no other inclusive parks in the area. Unger will work with Bill Livingston of Clearwater Recreation to find out what the costs would be for the inclusive playground equipment. The goals would include: find a place for such a park, set a committee, work on getting grants and corporate sponsorships.

C. Chamber of Commerce backpack promotion. Jon Christensen, president of the Kasson Chamber of Commerce, contacted the City about the possibility of having a backpack promotion at the Aquatic Center. Local businesses are having a bag printed with their logos. They would like to distribute the backpacks at the Aquatic Center on opening day. The bags

could be used for towels, sunscreen and other items that are taken to the pool. The Board was in favor of the promotion. They suggested that June 5th might be a better day than one of the days of Memorial weekend.

D. Hire 2014 summer employees. Unger presented the list of candidates that have interviewed for the 2014 seasonal positions at the Aquatic Center and in the Parks Department. Motion by Meyers and second by Coleman, with all voting Aye, to hire the 2014 aquatic center employees, ballpark concessions stand workers and seasonal mowers at the wages designated:
Water Safety Instructors at \$10.25/hour: Nicole Acker, Sam Rappe, Katelyn Goodman, Riley Krebs, Tanner Minette, Abigail Tjosaas and Maia Determan
Lifeguards at \$9.25/hour: Kailyn Wigham, Benjamin Peters, Anna Coleman, Adrianna Johnson, Tanner Dufault, Camille Snyder, Meghan Matthiesen, Mark Ostroot, Dana Rasmussen, Bailey Griffin, Brianna Griffin, Tracy Asche, Jonas Eisenbeis, Brianna Knutson, Colton Goodman, Kayla Hanson, Carter Murry, Mckenzie Swarts, Christine Schultz and Kennedy Mindermann
New lifeguards-subject to completion of the Red Cross training-at \$9.25/hour: Amanda Glowa, Justin Mastin, Jonathan Johnson, Marisa Alvarado, Juliana Scanlan, Matthew Determan, Brayden Tjosaas, Alex Verburg and Mitchell Verburg
Admission/concessions workers at \$8.00/hour: Kelcie Poffenberger, Tyler Schwab, Breanne Barrett, Brooklyn Grabau, Craig Peterson, Grant Smith, Abigail Wigham, Tyler Tjosaas, Rebekah Birgin, Madeline Robinson, Daniel Rappe, Kendra Jostock, Brock Leisen, Kelli Blaisdell, Clayton Flynn, Katelyn Harris, Grace Hager, Andrew Worden, Jack Peterson, Paul Vold, Kollin Johnson, Kristina Harfmann, Alejandra Brekke-Diaz, Madeline Lau, Jessica Kelley, Quade Barry, Ashley Abel and Alexandra Dole
Ballpark Concessions stand workers at \$8.00/hour: Brennan Bolster, Brayden Tjosaas and Logan Stenberg
Seasonal Mowers: Lucas Gannon will work four months at 40 hours per week at a rate of \$12.81/hour. Stewart Zeller will work six months at 29 hours per week at a rate of \$12.41/hour.

E. Set holiday pay for summer employees. Now that the City plans to have the Aquatic Center open from Memorial Day through Labor Day, there are three holidays during the time seasonal employees are working. In 2013 the manager struggled to fill the shifts until incentive pay was offered. It was suggested that the Board set the incentive pay rate so seasonal workers can be informed of this when they start working for the summer season. Motion by Meyers and second by Larsen, with all voting Aye, to pay seasonal employees holiday pay at a rate of 1 ½ times the employee's rate of pay for the hours worked on Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day.

F. Discuss water fitness/aerobics programs. Unger has been working with Kris Thomas of Xtreme Fitness to set the water aerobics classes for the 2014 season. Some of the morning classes will be eliminated due to lack of participation. A Sunday evening class will be added. The City will be guaranteed \$30.00 for each class that is offered.

Unger will add the Parent Tot Swim Time into the schedule along with the Tiny Tots lesson. He received several calls from parents that were concerned about the elimination of the Parent Tot Swim Time.

G. Free swim days. Dodge County Public Health has approached Unger about offering three “Free Swim Days” at the Kasson Aquatic Center. Kasson did not participate in the program in 2013 because the facility was still under construction at the beginning of the season. The program promotes health and exercise for the youth in the area. Dodge Center, West Concord and Hayfield also participate in this program. D.C.P.H. tentatively scheduled Kasson for the first Tuesday of each month. The County will apply to UCare for funds to help cities fund the program. They will request \$1,500.00 in reimbursement to the City of Kasson for their participation in the program. The Board agreed to participate in the program, but requested that the June date be moved to June 12th.

IV. Old Business:

A. County/City ice arena update. Meyers updated the Board on some of the misinformation and distorted facts that have gone to the media concerning the arena. The Arena building is in need of a new ceiling-not a new roof as has been reported. The Zamboni has been overhauled and is not in need of replacement. There is a Federal requirement to change the air handling system by 2020 that will affect arenas countrywide. The Committee composed of Dodge County, Kasson City and Arena representatives that was formed six months ago will be meeting again to discuss the issues.

B. Long range park planning. Unger has been working with the City’s engineers to draw up plans for the new Lions Park in southwest Kasson. They will put together costs for these items for the May meeting: access road off of Co.Hwy. 34, prepare an area for the playground modular installation, prepare the ground and pour a cement pad for the skateboard park and the construction of the retention pond.

Aerial photos of the new parks in the northeast (Blaines Subdivision), north northeast (Kasson Meadows Subdivision) and northwest (Bigelow-Voigt Subdivision) were also distributed.

Coleman asked about the playground equipment in the northeast tot lot. Unger reported that if any improvements are made to the equipment in that park, everything must be replaced to be ADA compliant.

There was a brief discussion about the donation that was given for the Aquatic Center. Unger is considering placing some permanent benches around the perimeter of the facility.

C. Library project. The Library Building Committee is working on the site plans for the new library in West Park. The Committee met with the leadership group at the Presbyterian Church. The Church does not want the modular moved. Once the library site plan is complete, the Board will have an idea of what changes will be made in the Park.

Other. Board Members have noticed picnic tables under the swings in Veterans Memorial Park. They asked about the status of the signs.

Board Members asked what is happening with the Dog Park in Mantorville. Since Moritz was not in attendance, there was nothing new to report.

V. Correspondence:

Letter from Dodge County Trail System. They are looking for areas that are designated for future trails in the City. Any connections to the County Trails System can be included with any future state bonding requests.

VI. Adjourn:

Motion by Franke and second by Larsen, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 P.M.

Acting Chairperson

Deputy Clerk

Arbor Day Observance will be May 19th at 10:00 A.M. in Vets Mem Park.
The May meeting will be on May 20th at 6:00 P.M.