

KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES
APRIL 18, 2017 Draft

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Kasson Park Board was duly held at Kasson City Hall on the 18th day of April at 6:00 P.M.

THE FOLLOWING PARK BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Roger Franke, Janet Sinning, Liza Larsen, Terry Meyers, Doug Buck, Greg Kuball and Jason Farnsworth

THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Parks & Rec Supervisor Ron Unger, Deputy Clerk Jan Naig, Kara Farnsworth, Ryan Head and Jenny Malecha

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chairperson Larsen.

II. Approve minutes: Motion by Farnsworth and second by Meyers, with all voting Aye, to approve the minutes of the March 2017 Kasson Park Board Meeting.

III. New Business:

A. KMGSA representatives. Ryan Head and Jenny Malecha presented a check in the amount of \$750.00 on behalf of the KMGSA to be used for the fields in the City parks.

There was some discussion about the Blue Diamonds group that has split from this Association and the ball field scheduling problems that have arisen. Unger indicated that KMGSA is the organization to which the City handed off their summer recreation programs. The KMGSA and KMBA are given priority for scheduling. Unger indicated the County has authorized funds to repair the field next to the Court House Annex so there would be another site available for teams to play. He also told them as the numbers continue to grow some of the practice times may need to be eliminated to free up the fields for games. KMBA has already started to find other places for practices to free up the fields.

Unger also reported that at the Joint Ventures Meeting last week the entities acknowledged that not as much funding gets allocated to the spring/summer sports programs. The group knows that they need to work together to provide ball fields. Unger has been directed to contact the City of Byron to find out how they were able to construct their new four field complex of ball fields and the cost involved. The Park Board talked about some possible site options for constructing a multi-field complex.

Unger encouraged KMGSA to work with Blue Diamonds, as much as possible, on scheduling issues until more fields become available. The Board expressed their appreciation for their donation to the parks.

B. Donation request –Byron Robotics. The Board received a request from Cody Thomason from the Byron Robotics Team for a donation to the fundraiser for their Team. Unger indicated that in the past daily passbooks have been given rather than a season pass. The Board was in agreement to give 10 daily passes to Byron Robotics Team.

Unger has spoken with Administrator Coleman about setting a policy for these donation requests. She has suggested allowing 40 daily passes to be used annually for marketing the Kasson Aquatic Center and to encourage utilization of the facility as the Park Board sees fit.

Motion by Meyers and second by Kuball, with all voting Aye, to give Unger authority annually for 40 daily passes to use for marketing at his discretion. If the requests go over the amount designated, the requests for additional passes shall come back to the Park Board for approval.

C. Anytime Fitness aerobics classes @ K.A.C. Ashley from Anytime Fitness has requested a second evening class on Tuesday evenings at the Aquatic Center. Unger indicated that there are hours available Monday through Thursday from 6:30 to 7:15 P.M. for outside groups to hold classes. He has tried to contact her-without success-regarding the time of her classes. He needs to make sure it does not interfere with lessons. A portion of the lap pool will be roped off so that swimmers can still use a portion of the lap pool.

D. Stump grinding. Thirty ash trees and 25 other trees have been taken down this past winter. Unger plans to start grinding stumps after June 1st.

E. 2017 Parks projects. Unger listed the projects that are on the schedule for 2017:

- install batting cage in Veterans Park
- install the steel ceiling in the West Shelter in Veterans Park
- tear out the benches and remove the shed from J Hyde Kasson Park
- move the backstop and remove 1st & 3rd baseline fencing in J Hyde Kasson Park and haul in fill to make it maintenance friendly
- pour cement pads and install benches in Veterans and Lions Parks
- plant trees in Lions Park
- develop the disc golf course in Lions Park
- remove/replace damaged tube slide at modular by Kasson Public Library
- install signs and landscape at Veterans and East Diamond Parks
- finish lighting around the Lions Park signage
- continue to work on new Veterans Memorial for Veterans Park

- repair North 2 ball field fencing
- replace fence at Maple Grove Cemetery

IV. Old Business:

A. Boulevard Tree program. Fifty-three boulevard trees have been ordered. The Treehouse will be here in a few weeks to plant them.

B. Part-time Parks/Public Works position. Three people were interviewed for the position. Two of the candidates had other full time work and schooling that did not allow the flexibility to work the hours needed. Mark Rappe has been hired for the position. He will be able to work 7:00 A.M. to noon daily since his other job allows him flexibility to set his hours.

C. Adult Softball update. Fourteen men's teams and 7 co-rec teams are registered for the 2017 season. Fees have been collected. Schedules will be distributed on April 25th. League play begins on May 4th and May 5th.

D. 2017 "Just Pick It Up" campaign. Sinning has contacted the FCCLA, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts about the need for volunteers. She has contacted the DCI about a photo and article. Meyers has talked to the Lions Club. Anyone interested in helping with the project should meet at City Hall on Saturday, April 29th at 8:00 A.M.

E. Arbor Day update. Arbor Day will be celebrated on Friday, April 28th in Lions Park. All Board Members are encouraged to meet at 10:00 A.M. for a photo for the DCI. Unger has contacted the Lions Club and trees will be ordered from Houston's Greenhouse for planting.

F. Movies in the Park update. Kurt Albrecht has been contacted. These are the dates that have been scheduled: June 23rd – Liza Larsen and OCEAN; July 7th – Kasson Fire Department; July 28th – Just Like Home SACC and Empower You Wellness and August 11th – Festival in the Park. Naig will be working with Swank Productions to order the movies.

V. Correspondence: None

The City has hired a CEDA consultant to work on marketing plans for the City. They will be working on the Capital Improvements Plan and Comprehensive Plan. The Park Board will be asked to upgrade the Comprehensive Plan for the Parks Department. A master plan for the parks system and trail system will need to be developed.

VI. Adjourn:

Motion by Kuball and second by Sinning, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 P.M.

Chairperson

Deputy Clerk

The next scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, May 16th at 6:00 P.M.
(Note: We have already been contacted by the City's Green Steps representative and Zumbro Bend Rendezvous about attending this meeting.)