

KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES JULY 18, 2017

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 July at 6:00 P.M.

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

THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT: Jason Farnsworth

ALSO PRESENT: Parks & Rec Supervisor Ron Unger, Deputy Clerk Jan Naig and Elizabeth Armstrong

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M. by Chairperson Larsen.

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

III. New Business:

A. Kasson Aquatic Center update. Unger reported the income at the Aquatic Center is about \$15,000.00 lower than this time in 2016. There were nine cooler days in June which affected the attendance. The July weather has been better and numbers are over June's numbers. There have also been 14 incidents which have caused the facility to be closed. These incidents require more monitoring of the chemical levels and also shut down the facility for a period of time.

Unger has been working with the K.A.C. staff to come up with the rules for allowing lifejackets in the pool. Once a policy is determined he will bring it back to the Park Board and then the City Council for approval. Then signage will need to be done. No changes will be implemented until 2018. He wants to make sure the policy is done right and that everyone is on the same page. Sinning asked if it will be implemented on a trial basis. Meyers asked if there will be a limit on the number of lifejackets allowed in the pool at a given time. Unger indicated another guard may need to be added in the zero depth area of the pool because this will require more observation. There was discussion about how the lifejackets will be marked once they've been checked. These will all be considerations when the policy is developed.

Unger reported on an incident at the facility where a toddler in a swimsuit that had a built in lifejacket was in the pool without the parent nearby. The Manager saw the child was struggling and could not turn over. The child was taken from the pool and the mother was not aware of what had happened. This reinforces the need for the guards to require a parent be within an arm's

distance for a child to be in the water with or without a lifejacket. Parents must be responsible for their own children.

B. Festival in the Park –garbage workers. Unger reported that Josh Gilbertson will do the garbage detail for Festival in the Park. He will let Unger know if he can find a second worker, otherwise Unger will line someone up to help him. Unger asked the Board to consider increasing the hourly rate for these workers since there has not been an increase for a few years.

Motion by Sinning and second by Franke, with all voting Aye, to hire Josh Gilbertson to do garbage and to increase the hourly rate for the Festival in the Park garbage workers to \$13.00 per hour.

C. Park projects. Unger gave a brief update of the parks projects.

-J. Hyde Kasson Park: City crews have been tearing out the old bleachers. The water spigot has been removed. The old concession stand/storage building is ready to move to Veterans Memorial Park. Fill will be hauled in to make the Park maintenance friendly. The baseline fencing is down. The backstop will not be moved until mid-August.

-Veterans Memorial Park: The cement pad for the old concession stand/storage building has been poured. The siding and roof on that building will need to be repaired. The batting cage still needs to be constructed. Wood fibers need to be added to both modulars. Work has been done on the horseshoe pits and volleyball court. The steel ceiling needs to be installed in the West shelter. Fix the dirt and sod where the drain tile was replaced. Repairs to No. 2 ball field fence and install new outfield post at No. 2 ball field.

-Lions Park: Lights and landscaping around the new signs. City staff are still working on the lighting for the Highway 14 sign. Set the baskets for the disc golf course. Plant trees in the park.

-Need to install the signs for Veterans Memorial Park and East Diamond Park.

D. Stump removals. There are 58 stumps to grind out. Unger plans to start doing some work next week. He plans to have someone work two days per week on stump removal.

E. 2018 Budget Review. Unger went over the list of projects that should be done in the next two to three years. The Board will be involved in the process to prioritize the projects based on the funds that are available. In the past, \$50,000 to \$55,000 has been budgeted for park projects by the City Council.

The following are projects that need to be considered:

- Playground modular for East Diamond Park
- Construct a concession stand/restroom in East Diamond Park
- Add to the modular in Meadowland Park
- Add a volleyball court in Meadowland Park (on gas line easement)
- Add a blacktop walking path in Meadowland Park to connect with the path to the schools
- Construct picnic shelter in Lions Park
- Add signage at Meadowland Park
- Replace a park pickup
- Replace tennis courts in Veterans Memorial Park ; add pickleball court
- Convert soccer fields in Prairie View Park into multipurpose fields

IV. Old Business:

A. Movies in the Park update. On June 23rd (Beethoven) there were about 35 people in attendance. The July 8th movie (Little Rascals) drew around 85 people. The last park sponsored movie is on July 28th (Brave).

B. Other. The floor was used in the Arena during the Dodge County Fair. The ice was unavailable for a week during this time. There have been day camps and the facility has been used extensively this summer.

Kuball asked about the electric service in the East Pavilion. Some of the receptacles in the northeast platform were not working. Unger will find out if there is a problem with a breaker.

V. Correspondence: None.

VI. Adjourn: Motion by Franke and second by Buck, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 P.M.

Chairperson

Deputy Clerk

The next scheduled meeting will tentatively be on Tuesday, September 19th at 6:00 P.M. Unger does not anticipate a meeting in August.