

## **KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES MAY 16, 2017**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Kasson Park Board was duly held at Kasson City Hall on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of May at 6:00 P.M.

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

**THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Parks & Rec Supervisor Ron Unger, Deputy Clerk Jan Naig, Kara Farnsworth, Erik, Jamie and Rachel Peterson, Chuck Coleman, Dave Mata, Sam Wiegand, Lynn Beckard and Leo Barbosa.

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M. by Chairperson Larsen.
  
- II. **Approve minutes:** Motion by Meyers and second by Farnsworth, with all voting Aye, to approve the minutes of the April 2017 Kasson Park Board Meeting.
  
- III. **New Business:**
  - A. **Zumbro Bend Rendezvous representatives.** Erik and Jamie Peterson spoke on behalf of the Zumbro Bend Rendezvous. The event has been held at Riverside Park in Mantorville for several years. Because of past high water and flooding issues they are looking for a new location. They are trying to keep the event in Dodge County. One of the sites they are considering is Lions Park in Kasson. Some of the Board's concerns include: the ground will be wet if it is a wet fall, the grass is not established so there could be considerable damage from fire pits and the foot and vehicle traffic and there is not enough off-street parking for all of the vehicles.  
  
The Rendezvous is also considering "Camp Kasson". This is the school district's land that is east of the fairgrounds. The Park Board is in agreement that this would be the better site. The grounds are not as wet, there is better access to parking and it is more accessible for the schools. Unger will contact Superintendent Matuska and Groundskeeper J.J. Williams to find out if the School would allow the Rendezvous to hold the event at the Camp Kasson site. The Board is in agreement that the event is good for the community so they will work together to try to find a site.
  
  - B. **K-M Soccer representatives.** Dave Mata and members of KM Youth Soccer were in attendance to talk about their needs for soccer fields. They would like the Park Board to consider adding soccer fields in Lions Park. They distributed a site plan of Lions Park which mapped out four large soccer

fields and six small fields. There are 400 children participating in their program. They are planning to run soccer programs in the spring, summer and fall. Since the fields at the school are wet and compacted due to drainage issues, they are looking for additional fields for practices, games and tournaments. Park Board members had concerns about the placement and number of fields in the plan. The Board does not want to lose sight of the original plans for Lions Park (shelter, expanded disc golf course, basketball court, tennis court). It was also suggested that the school district and city try to figure out all of the field needs (softball, baseball, soccer and football). A long term development plan should be put together for Lions Park. Unger will meet with some of the soccer representatives to see what areas would work for soccer fields in the Park. The Board will revisit their original plans for Lions Park at the June meeting. The KM Youth Soccer and Football programs may need to work together on scheduling practice times and game times at the fields in Prairie View Park.

**C. Green Steps representative.** Chuck Coleman met with the Board on behalf of the City's Green Steps Committee. The 2009 legislature set up the Green Step Program for cities to establish practices that focus on cost savings and energy use reduction. The City has obtained Steps 1 and 2. Step 3 is more involved. The focus is on buildings, land use, transportation, environmental management, economic and commercial development. Coleman presented items that should be considered by the Board when setting up the Comprehensive Plan and when making improvements in park areas and trails. This includes solar power, LED lighting, trail systems, park land dedication, community-wide clean up and tree planting.

**D. Kasson Aquatic Center update.** The pools have been cleaned and filled for the season. Unger talked about the repairs that will be done around the facility. Unger reminded the Board that in 2018 the drain grates and sand filters will need to be repaired.

A Lifeguard Training Course will be offered at the facility this month. The CPR recertification will also be done at the aquatic center. The meetings and safety training dates for the Aquatic Center staff have been set.

#### **IV. Old Business:**

**A. 2017 "Just Pick It Up" campaign .** Sinning reported on the citywide cleanup campaign. Eighth Ave NW, the ditches around Kwik Trip, Lions Park and 7<sup>th</sup> Street NE were picked up. Sinning thanked the Lions Club for their help with the project.

**B. Arena update.** Rochester programs will not have the Rec Center rink available to them this summer. This is bringing more business to our facility since Rochester groups are looking for ice time.

**C. Other.** Kuball asked about the Sesquicentennial banners that are still hanging downtown. It is being addressed with the Chamber of Commerce.

Kuball also asked if an Arbor Day program could be set up to allow groups/businesses to donate trees for parks. This would be a way to get more trees planted in the new parks.

**V. Correspondence:** None

**VI. Adjourn:** Motion by Farnsworth and second by Meyers, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

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Deputy Clerk

The next scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.