

KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES

APRIL 20, 2021

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Kasson Park Board was duly held at Kasson City Hall on the 20th day of April 2021 at 6:00 P.M.

THE FOLLOWING PARK BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Janet Sinning, Roger Franke, Chuck Coleman, Liza Larsen, Sarah Hirsch, Chris Petree, Dan Eggler and Greg Kuball

THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Timothy Ibisch, Parks & Rec Supervisor Ron Unger and Deputy Clerk Jan Naig

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

II. Approve minutes: Motion by Franke and second by Sinning, with all voting Aye, to approve the minutes of the March 2021 Park Board Meeting.

III. New Business:

- A. Adult softball 2021.** Nine teams are signed up for the league this year. Play will begin on May 6th and there will be a full season. Unger also noted there will be a softball tournament in Veterans Memorial Park on May 8th and 9th this year. Sixteen teams are expected to participate.
- B. 2021 Aquatic Center season.** The pool will open with limited hours beginning on May 29th. Current COVID guidelines will allow opening at full capacity of 572 participants.
- There will be a Lifeguard Training class the week of May 24-29 at the facility.
 - The SurfacePro is here to take photos for family/individual memberships.
 - Unger has been working on advertising with marketing reps at Rochester radio stations.
 - Anytime Fitness will be using the facility for Aqua Zumba on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.
 - Unger has worked with vendors to finalize the concessions stand products that will be available.

There was some discussion about items that will be covered at the employee meeting on May 15th. The Employee Handbook covers what is expected of seasonal employees--which includes mutual respect and harassment-- is presented. Ibisch also recommended that there be discussion on mental health.

Unger indicated we will need to budget for a computer and software upgrade for the Aquatic Center as part of the 2022 budget.

C. 2021 Park projects.

- Build two basketball courts in Lions Park south of the skate park. Money will come from Joint Ventures and from a donation in memory of Braxton Raymond to help with these costs.
- Install the additional playground modular features in Meadowland Park.
- Add a basketball hoop at the end of the parking lot in East Diamond Park.
- Continue to build up the soil and over-seed the ball field in East Diamond Park.
- Grind out 40-50 stumps for trees that have been removed.
- Re-stain the dugouts in East Diamond Park.

There was discussion on how the parks projects get prioritized. There are some higher cost projects for which there are not enough funds available so they are not at the top of the list. (Examples: Lions Park curb and paving of parking lot, pickleball courts, tennis courts.) Those projects get built into the CIP so funds can be allocated. Ibisch asked if a survey had ever been done to get feedback from residents to aid in setting priorities.

IV. Old Business:

- A. Update on stone wall in Veterans Memorial Park.** The Minnesota Senate has passed the Legacy Grant. The bill is waiting on House approval. This should provide \$30,000.00 in funds for the Wall. All of the funds should be turned over to the City in July since that is when payments to Reticulated Stone begin. Unger has contacted John Digley about starting the project after Festival in the Park (mid-August). He has also contacted Stone by Stone about the concrete work and will find out any price increases above his 2020 bid. The portion of the Wall in front of the picnic shelter and the main park entrance are what is included in the work that is to be done under this bid.
- B. Boulevard tree program update.** Twenty-eight boulevard trees have been ordered. The Treehouse plans to plant the trees the first week in May. Unger reported that none of the trees planted in 2020 have died.
- C. 2021 Arbor Day observance.** Park Board Members were reminded that the City will observe Arbor Day on Friday, April 30th. The Lions Club will participate in the tree planting. Unger plans to plant four trees in East Diamond Park along 11th Avenue Northeast.

V. Correspondence: Coleman asked about the trail that is being built on the northside of the United Methodist Church to 8th Avenue Northwest. The trail will be extended in late summer.

VI. Adjourn: Motion by Franke and second by Coleman, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 P.M.

Chairperson

Deputy Clerk

The next scheduled meeting will be May 18th.