

## **KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES JANUARY 19, 2021 DRAFT**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Kasson Park Board was duly held at Kasson City Hall on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021 at 6:00 P.M.

**THE FOLLOWING PARK BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:** Sarah Hirsch, Liza Larsen, Chris Petree, Dan Egger and Chuck Coleman

**THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT:** Greg Kuball , Janet Sinning and Roger Franke

**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 Egger and second by Coleman, with all voting Aye, to approve the minutes of the December Park Board Meeting.

### **III. New Business:**

- A. Oath of Office-Coleman, Hirsch & Petree.** The Mayor has appointed Coleman, Hirsch and Petree to the Park Board for a three year term. Naig administered the oath of office. Their terms will run through 2023.
  
- B. Select Chairperson for 2021.** Larsen asked if any members were interested in serving as Chairperson. Motion was made by Coleman and second by Egger, with all voting Aye, to nominate Larsen as Chairperson for 2021.
  
- C. 2021 K.A.C.**
  - 1. Set 2021 wages for Manager & Supervisors.** Unger reported that all of the 2020 supervisors and the manager have all reapplied and will be returning this summer. Following State guidelines, Unger has proposed an 8 cent raise for both positions.  
Motion by Coleman and second by Egger, with all voting Aye, to recommend the hourly wage of \$18.32 for the manager and \$13.58 for the supervisors for the 2021 season.
  - 2. Hire 2021 Manager & Supervisors.** Unger indicated that there will be five supervisors hired in 2021 rather than using supervisors and head lifeguards. Abigail (Tjosaas) Root will return as Lifeguard Training Instructor and she will also help with lessons on a limited basis. Her wage will be the same as the supervisors.  
Motion by Egger and second by Coleman, with all voting Aye, to recommend the following hires for the 2021 season:  
Manager: Joshua Mitchell; Supervisors: Christine Farnberg, Madelyn Larsen, Brody Hegge, Destiny Anderson, Melissa Seljan and Abigail (Tjosaas) Root.

3. **Update on employee applicants.** Unger indicated he now has 57 employee applications. Interviews for new staff were conducted in December. The openings in the concession area are filled. He will still accept applicants for lifeguards and W.S.I.s.
4. **Discuss 2021 hours & operations.** Unger has been working with Mitchell to come up with the plan of operation for 2021. At this time, Plan A is to go back to the normal schedule (pre COVID) in 2021. If the evening attendance drops in August, the hours may be revised. Plan B will be similar to 2020 if we have COVID restrictions. If 2021 numbers are still down, more changes will be recommended for 2022.

Unger and Mitchell will be working on some radio advertising spots to bring in more patrons from Rochester and other neighboring communities.

Eggler asked about getting people to the facility when construction begins on Highway 57. That should not affect the 2021 season, but will need to be addressed as the project gets closer.

- D. **Tree maintenance & inventory.** November through March is the time when City crews do their tree work. They have completed trimming the trees on their list. There are 27 trees to remove this year. In 2017 the City implemented their E.A.B. Management Plan. At that time there were approximately 255 boulevard ash trees in the city. There are approximately 65 ash trees remaining.

Unger recently received a call from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture asking how the City is doing with the E.A.B. maintenance. The City was congratulated on the actions taken to manage the E.A.B. spread.

Unger is setting up a spread sheet to inventory the boulevard trees. He is entering the addresses of residents that have planted boulevard trees, a listing of ash trees being treated and those that have been removed. He is also tracking the cost of removals.

#### IV. Old Business:

- A. **Update on stone wall in Veterans Memorial Park.** Sinning was not in attendance so there was nothing new to report concerning the preservation of the wall. Ibisch indicated that in order for the City Council to consider funding the project, there needs to be substantial commitment from the private sector.

The Kasson Area Foundation is not currently active. A Board would need to be put in place that will meet regularly for it to be used as a 501(c)3 for this purpose.

**V. Correspondence:** None.

**VI. Adjourn:** Motion by Egler and second by Petree, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 P.M.

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Chairperson

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Deputy Clerk

The next scheduled meeting will be February 16<sup>th</sup>.