

KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES MARCH 16, 2021

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Kasson Park Board was duly held at Kasson City Hall on the 16th day of March 2021 at 6:00 P.M.

THE FOLLOWING PARK BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Janet Sinning, Chuck Coleman, Liza Larsen, Chris Petree, Greg Kuball and Dan Eggler-via zoom

THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT: Roger Franke and Sarah Hirsch

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 Kuball and second by Coleman, with all voting Aye, to approve the minutes of the January 2021 Park Board Meeting.

III. New Business:

- A. Adult softball meeting.** Unger expects to have eight teams in the league this year. The meeting for team managers will be on March 17th. Play will begin on May 6th and there will be a full season this year.
- B. Boulevard tree planting program.** Orders for trees will be accepted until March 26th. Unger indicated there may be a shortage of trees from the wholesale suppliers due to last year's COVID, which may delay the planting until fall. The prices are also higher. Ibisch asked if the City has considered collective purchasing with another City to get better pricing in the future. There was also some discussion about having our own stock of trees grown in a gravel bed system. Coleman commented that if the City would start growing their own nursery stock, there would be a need for a Forestry Department.
- C. 2021 K.A.C.**
 - 1. Set 2021 wages for K.A.C. staff.** The Board discussed the wages that Unger proposed for the 2021 season.
Motion by Kuball and second by Sinning, with all voting Aye, to recommend the following hourly wages for the 2021 season:
W.S.I.'s \$11.83; Lifeguards (at least 2nd year employees) \$10.83; 1st year Lifeguards \$10.33; Concession/admissions workers (at least 2nd year employees) \$10.08 and 1st year Concession/admissions workers \$9.08.
 - 2. Hire 2021 K.A.C. employees.** Unger and Mitchell have interviewed all of the new applicants. He presented the list of applicants that are recommended for hire for the 2021 season.
Motion by Petree and second by Coleman, with all voting Aye, to recommend the following hires for the 2021 season:
W.S.I.'s: Rachel Schultz, Halle Determan, Luke Olson, Madelyn Larsen, Jordan Kern and Katie Harfmann

Lifeguards: Owen Bradford, Julia Christenson, Kyler Kujath, Brock Swanson, Moriah Mastin, Mitchell Nelson, Alayna Gossard, Nora McAndrews, Kadence Kochie, Adam Vogel, Timothy Schultz, Cassidy Thompson, Duncan Olson, Odin Kamel, Mira Koehler, Ava Sutton, Patrick Trihey, McKenzie Holz and Kaia Langemo

Admission/Concessions workers: Kylie McNeill, Claire Sutton, Keyan Severson, Bennett Brown, Benjamin Larsen, Michaela Kern, Amelia Peck and Drew Weigel

1st year Lifeguards: Sadie Coleman, Charlotte Woodrum, Lucy Anderson, Caden Quattrin and Sydney Flaherty

1st year Admission/Concession workers: Ella Stoskopf, Madison Lee, Annalise Anderson, Ella Stafford, Emmett Oolman, Addison Trow, Sam Graunke, Emma Bradford, Maya Torkelson, MaKenzie Carrier, Brasen Carlson, Piper Hiller, Quinn Mulrine, Spencer Anderson, Samuel Trow and Kale Sunderman

- D. Set 2021 Arbor Day observance – April 30th.** The national Arbor Day observance is the last Friday in April. The City will plan their observance on that date, as well.

Trees will be planted in East Diamond Park at 10:00 A.M. All Park Board Members are invited to attend. Unger has contacted the Kasson-Mantorville Lions Club to participate in the event.

Unger also indicated he also has trees to plant in memory of former Mayor Barb Pike and Pastor Curtis Johnson.

The City did receive the Tree City USA designation for the 41st year.

IV. Old Business:

- A. Update on stone wall in Veterans Memorial Park.** Ibisch indicated the City is working on grants to help with the cost of the project. Sinning indicated the community has been very receptive concerning the project. Nearly \$43,000.00 has been raised to repair the wall. She would like to have a marker/plaque placed near the wall to talk about the historical significance. Unger has talked to John Digley of Reticulated Stone concerning the project. Digley would not be able to work on the project until late summer. Egger recommended that work be delayed until after Festival weekend if he plans to start in late summer.

Motion by Sinning and second by Kuball, with all voting Aye, to recommend that the City continue to move forward with the project to repair the Veterans' Park wall based on positive feedback that has been received.

Unger will contact John Digley and Sheldon Torkelson of Stone by Stone about the cost of the project since pricing may have changed since they gave their bids in 2020.

Kuball asked if there were plans to add lighting at the wall. It was not part of the original bids. Ibisch indicated that he would meet with Unger and Electric Supervisor Nelson to see how we can utilize lighting already in the Park to highlight the wall.

- B. Aquatic Center update.** Unger gave a brief update on things that are happening at the facility.
- The umbrella damaged by wind has been replaced.
 - The play feature in the zero depth entry area has been repaired.
 - The yellow slide will be buffed by Lemmie Jones.
 - The new mat in the tots play area will be installed by Lemmie Jones.
 - Registrations and membership forms are coming in.
 - Finnly Technology will help us update the computer information and help with the camera for the membership card photos.
 - Pictures will be scheduled once cameras are at the Aquatic Center.
 - Abbie Root will be doing a lifeguard training class in May. She will also train the supervisors on using the computer system for memberships and registrations.

Until we know what the Governor’s executive orders will be concerning COVID, we will have to wait to determine how the facility will operate this summer. At this time we are no longer required to operate at 50% capacity.

- C. Tree maintenance update.** City crews have finished the tree maintenance work for the season. Forty to 50 trees have been taken down. Five large maples were also removed in Maple Grove Cemetery. Stump grinding will be done throughout the summer.
- D. Kasson Area Foundation update.** Ibisch reported the Foundation is still active and the tax forms have been filed. The old group will be dissolved. A new group will be set up under the direction of Southern MN Initiative Foundation. It will not be a project based Foundation so the money that is contributed can be used in many areas. A new Board of Directors will need to be set up of people who are “community-minded”.

V. Correspondence: Petree indicated he has sent a message to the City from the Wildcat Girls Hockey Boosters concerning a plan to update the existing scoreboard and add a second scoreboard at the north end of the Arena. The Boosters have received a grant and want to find the best way to spend their funds in the facility they use. They need to know the process to make an agreement with the City for a project of this type.

VI. Adjourn: Motion by Egger and second by Coleman, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 7:00P.M.

Chairperson

Deputy Clerk

The next scheduled meeting will be April 20th.