

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

6:00 p.m.

- 1) Call to order by Curt Stepanek.

Roll Call: Members Present: Curt Stepanek, Audrey Stowell, Beth Arneberg, Carmen Muenich, Dale Berg, and Jane Lardahl. Absent: Heidi Hoekstra.
Staff present: Dick Hebert and Bill Faherty.

- 2) Approval of March 9, 2010, Minutes: **Motion by Carmen Muenich, seconded by Beth Arneberg, all present voting aye, to approve minutes of the March 9, 2010, meeting.**

- 3) Personal Appearances: None

4) Communications. Bill reports that an Elementary Girl Power group has chosen Irvine Park as a project. They will be cleaning up the area by the red barn on April 27. He reports that the Chi Hi JV softball girls will be cleaning up the schoolhouse area this week as well. Bill has received correspondence from the Valley Vineyard Church wishing to hold a community event again this year on July 10th. This will be held in the campground area. Curt suggests groups could also clean some of the neighborhood parks, which are in need of clean-up as well.

- 5) Discuss/Approve/Disapprove.

a. Application to Use Casper Park for Hmong Association Festivals. Bill reports that the Hmong Association has contacted him to hold a festival either June 12/13 or June 19/20 at Casper Park. They are completing the special event application. This is the festival that was held at the Fairgrounds last year. They will be using the softball fields and soccer fields for tournaments and have a food set-up as well. After discussion, **motion by Beth Arneberg, seconded by Jane Lardahl, all present voting aye, to approve either dates and setting the base fee at \$1,200 and allowing Bill Faherty to adjust the rental fee as applicable.**

b. American Legion Baseball Fees and Charges for Casper Park. Discussion regarding charging for use of the fields by American Legion. Bill has asked for \$25/game. **Motion by Carmen Muenich, seconded by Jane Lardahl, all present voting aye, to authorize Bill Faherty to meet with American Legion for purposes of establishing a fee for use of the baseball field. Further, the American Legion is welcome to attend the Park Board's May meeting.**

c. Grant for School House Renovation. Bill presents that there is a grant available through Lowe's for renovation on historic schoolhouses. He only recently became aware of the grant, and the deadline is 04/30/10. Carmen offers to assist in getting it completed. Bill will e-mail to the members and then set up a meeting to try to complete the grant application. Bill indicates that the work that needs to be done includes refurbishing the windows, flooring and ceiling.

- 6) Update on Current Projects.

a. Application for Grant from DNR. Appraisal is done. The deadline for this grant is May 1. Bill reports that it should be submitted on time.

b. New Exhibit – Fencing/Windows/Grand Opening. Bill reports that the windows are in and the fencing will be done this week. He is hoping for the animals to be in by early May with an open house during the summer.

c. Pasture Animal Fencing Project. No report.

- d. Virginia Graeme Baker Act (repairs at Willi Outdoor Pool). We have a contract with Newman Pools to replace the drains. These will be installed in September. This puts us in compliance, and the pool will open on schedule.
- e. Native Tree Trail. The latest section is down by The Hollow. A bridge has been built in the style of the one in place when the Park opened. The native trees of Wisconsin are being planted along this trail. Beth reports that there is graffiti under the bridge.
- f. Irvine Park Band Shell.
1. New Flag Pole. Bill will be getting price quotes for a new flag pole.
 2. Selection of Benches. The slab is complete. This was put in using all donated funds. Bill suggests replacing the benches as a fundraiser (similar to the benches placed around the park). They run about \$1,300 and could be sold for \$2,500. Bill indicates that there are sample benches upstairs in front of his office to look at.
- 7) Discuss/consider Recreation Program report. Dick reports that soccer starts this Saturday. There are over 300 kids enrolled. The adult softball manager's meeting will be held this week. Adult softball will start the first Sunday in May. The summer program brochure will be inserted in the Herald on April 24.
- 8) Discuss/consider Personnel Report.
- a. Seasonal Employees. Bill reports that they have been interviewing. There have been lots of applicants. He will be hiring two people for the petting zoo, four for Casper Park, and he has already hired two for Irvine Park, who started April 1. The nice weather necessitated the hiring of the two that started in April. They will work through September/October. Dick is hiring pool staff.
- 9) Discuss/consider Friends of Irvine Park Zoo Report. No report.
- 10) Discuss/consider Parks Maintenance Report. Bill reports that they have been cleaning the park, tennis courts, picking up garbage. Mowing will likely start soon. The red barn in Irvine Park has been shingled. Park staff and the Street Dept. will finish the Pavilion work in the fall.
- 11) Discuss/Consider Board Member comments or concerns. Beth asks if the tennis court lights can stay on now since it's so nice. Bill will change the timer. Carmen asked when the road by the old bear den will be open. Bill reports it is not open yet, but he will request employees to open on the weekends. Carmen also asked about the dog park. Bill reports it will open in June. Jane asked if there was one-way traffic by the zoo. Bill reports it is two-way traffic there. Curt questions what the amount to the treasurer is. Bill indicates that's for vehicle maintenance. Carmen asks about the Mercedes Benz. Bill reports that the Inventory has now been filed in that estate and indicated where the various estates are that we have been named beneficiary.
- 12) Approve Claims. **Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Dale Berg, all present voting aye, to approve claims for of \$32,617.33.**
- 13) Adjournment. **Motion by Carmen Muenich, seconded by Curt Stepanek, all present voting aye, to adjourn.**

Submitted by:

Audrey Stowell, Secretary