

Regular Meeting.

Parks Commission September 11, 2017 4:30 p.m.

City Hall

Present: Krohn, Wyman, Fryc, Martinson, Urbanski, Badger.

Absent: Krick.

Staff: C. Peterson, L. Peterson, L. Anderson

Others: R. Reeves, K. Stedman, A. Chalberg, A. Bilden Camps, M. Acres, P. Marciniak.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 26, 2017 regular meeting were presented and approved.

COMMISSIONERS UPDATE

- Commission Wyman reports that many folks are excited about the Dunlap Island improvements.
- Commissioner Krohn shared the results of the recent Lost Forester Run and the two Adventure Runs for Blue House. Approximately 80 participated, with a net profit of \$2200.
- Commissioner Badger stated that some of the trees in Fauley Park exhibit Dutch Elm disease. In addition, some of the trees in Veteran's park have died and some weeding is needed.
- Commissioner Wyman expressed concern for the close proximity of the new Veteran's Park trees to Highway 33 during winter snow removal. In addition, the seeding on the hillside is poor. L. Peterson of the Park Department reports that some area church groups plan to weed at Pinehurst Park, Fauley Park, and Veteran's Park. The City will provide new mulch.

COMMUNITY ED REPORT

- The end-of-year financial report for the beach is not yet available, but the year appeared to consist of average usage and was a safe year. One incident with a boy experiencing a seizure was handled appropriately.
- The criteria for closing the beach was discussed.
- More lounge chairs was suggested.
- The sale of family passes seems to be a financial plus, more data to come.
- A spot in the Minnesota Explorer was discussed.

CITY STAFF REPORT

- After a long lull the contractor is back to work on the 2017 Riverfront improvements and with decent weather hope to finish up in six weeks. This week they've begun on the skating ribbon, the block work, and foundations for the playground equipment.
- The single bid for the Skatepark was rejected as it was \$100,000 over budget. Staff is calling on other contractors nationwide. The Project Labor Agreement and schedule may have added to the bid costs.
- Traditionally the budget has covered two staff for the Churchill and Athletic Park warming houses and occasionally the Pinehurst Bath House. This coming season four staff will be needed as we add the warming house on Dunlap Island for the new skating ribbon.
- The use of Pine Valley for the Archery Club has historically existed since the creation of the Park and the involvement of Joe Nowak. Currently the club reserves the entire park for one weekend each month from May to August. Concerns have been raised with archers utilizing the targets at times when others are using the park. The Archery Club will be invited to meet with the Commission to understand their needs and safety issues.
- There is money in the Capital Plan to revitalize the Pine Valley Chalet. Staff reached out to two local firms for a walk through and scoping study. Both submitted specifics and cost estimates. One firm has met the revitalization needs at a cost of \$5,500.

Motion by Urbanski, 2nd by Wyman to retain Krech Ojard & Associates for the

revitalization of the Pine Valley Chalet. Motion carried, 6-0.

2018 Operating Budget

Staff reviewed the proposed 2018 Park Fund operations budget. Discussion was held regarding projected camping revenues and an error for the Hilltop Park Lease amount with FDLTCC.

Motion by Urbanski, 2nd by Badger to recommend approval of the 2018 Budget. Motion carried, 6-0.

Born Learning Trail

Ali Bilden Camps of the Cloquet United Way presented several proposed locations for the Born Learning Trail. The trail supports learning for zero to seven-year-olds, consists of 10 signs plus 10 activities and is best located in a city park. There is no cost to the city and the maintenance is provided by volunteers.

Motion by Urbanski, 2nd by Wyman to authorize the use of Hilltop Park sidewalk for the Born Learning Trail. Motion carried, 6-0.

Blue Line Club

Mike Acres of the non- profit Blue Line Club requested approval for 20 reserved parking spaces during the 2017-2018 Cloquet-Esko-Carlton Boys Hockey games for use as a fund raiser. The program ran during the last season and was a tremendous success.

Motion by Urbanski, 2nd by Fryc to authorize the use of 20 parking spaces during the 2017-2018 CEC Boys Hockey games. Motion carried, 6-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting to be held October 2, 2017, 4:30 p.m. at a location TBD.

On motion duly carried by a unanimous yea vote of all members present, the Parks Commission adjourned.

Secretary