

Regular Meeting.

Parks Commission March 2, 2020 - 4:30 p.m.

City Hall

Present: C. Martinson, T. Krohn, T. Urbanski, J. Badger, J. Anderson

Absent: J. Fryc

Staff: C. Peterson, T. Johnson, K. Stedman, A. Chalberg, L. Anderson

Others: R. Reeves, K. Kolodge, K. Taylor

MINUTES

The minutes of the February 3, 2020 regular meeting were presented. Motion by J. Anderson and 2nd by Krohn to approve, motion carried 4-0.

COMMUNITY ED

R. Reeves' update included news of the all the action at the indoor pool which includes: Friday Night swimming, 50 youth registered for a March Narwhals Junior Swim Club, a life-guard class beginning tomorrow and spring swim lessons in April. There are two family fun days left. Adult drop-in volleyball is going well and there were more than 50 kids for youth ice skating lessons. Tae Kwon Do is coming back to Cloquet and a bike maintenance class April 21. After school enrichment at all three buildings is going very well. There is a Star Gazing event on April 25th at 8:30 p.m. at Hilltop Park. She asked for input on possible sponsors for the skate park event. Last year the event was well attended by youth and by neighbors and the hope is to repeat it as it is positive PR.

COMMISSIONERS UPDATE

Commissioner Krohn reports that the application for the regional designation of Pine Valley to the Greater Minnesota Parks and Trails Commission has been submitted and results are expected by the end of March. The Snow Dog demo model is available for purchase. Discussion ensued as to who would own it, maintain it, where would it be stored, and who would be authorized to use it. Staff states the City would not assume responsibility. Commissioner Krohn also received a \$5000 donation from Enbridge for the mountain bike trail. Enbridge will attend the May 9th event to be acknowledged. The Rotary group has agreed to partner with the City and supply the 501c3 for fundraising activities. Lastly dog waste pick-up bags are requested for the north side of the river, east of Hwy. 33.

K. Taylor from the FDL Resource Management office presented information on their invasive species program. They are mostly targeting buckthorn around the Pine Valley Loop. They are asking to also treat adjacent City properties in the White Pine Loop Trail. They follow the strict environmental guidelines, install signage at the time they treat and mostly do target treatments on stumpage vs widespread spraying. Staff will prepare a Memorandum of Understanding stating the City is on board with the treatment program.

CITY STAFF REPORT

Staff reports that a mountain bike trail phase II pre-construction meeting with Trail Logic will be held Tuesday March 17th. For future discussion Staff asks the commissioners to consider possible action regarding the tapping of maple trees on City property and the equipment being left there. Also, the trash from hospital employees on City property is of concern and staff will discuss solutions with the Community Memorial Administration. Lastly Staff asks the Commission to consider the plans for the warming houses. Athletic Park needs a new furnace and as the lowest usage of all rinks.

The Park Dept. said all the rinks are now closed for the season. The final clean-up of Christmas decorations and some grooming of the ski trails continues. They will begin pruning shortly.

ACTION ITEMS

The FDL Trail agreement was discussed.

Motion by Badger and 2nd by Martinson to recommend approval of amended agreement with FDL for operation and maintenance of the Pine Valley West trail system. Motion carried 5-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting to be held Monday April 6, 2020 - 4:30 p.m. at City Hall.

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

Secretary