

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

4:30 p.m., Snack Bar, Bunker Hill Golf Course

PRESENT: Tom Blocklinger, Chuck Duggan, Karen Lyness, Evelyn Nadeau and Mark Noble

ABSENT: Gary Harjehausen and Paul Hoffmann

OTHERS: Staff present: Gil Spence, Pat Prevenas, Bob Fritsch and Eileen Trimble

MINUTES APPROVED;  
VOTE: It was moved by Blocklinger, seconded by Noble, to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2009, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

BOY SCOUT REQUEST TO WAIVE ENTRANCE FEE TO EAGLE POINT PARK; VOTE: Tyler Frank was present representing the Boy Scouts, asking to have the entrance fee to Eagle Point Park waived for persons attending their pancake breakfast on Mother's Day. This request is the same every year, and in exchange for waiving the entrance fee, the scouts do a service project at Eagle Point Park.

It was moved by Nadeau, seconded by Blocklinger, to waive the entrance fee to Eagle Point Park on Mother's Day, May 10th, for anyone attending the Boy Scout pancake breakfast. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS PLACING EAGLE POINT PARK ON NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Leisure Services Manager Gil Spence told commissioners that someone proposed to the city manager's office that Eagle Point Park be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. When this was discussed several years ago, being on the register took a lot of control away from the city, but that has changed. We would not lose any control over things in the park or the way things were done, unless federal funds were used for a project. It would basically be the publicity value and to open the door for possible grants. Eagle Point is already on the list of Significant Places.

There are two options, one would be to place buildings only and the other would be buildings and grounds. If grounds are listed we would need an archeological study estimated at \$25,000. If buildings only are listed, the city would hire an architect to go through the process, which would cost an estimated \$10,000.

General comments from commissioners: it's a lot of money for not gaining anything but publicity; Eagle Point is a showcase so it might be good to keep looking into it and be absolutely certain we would not lose any control; would we ever recoup the \$10,000 investment?

Mr. Spence will investigate and make sure about the control issue and let the commission know.

continued

EAGLE POINT  
PARK 100TH  
BIRTHDAY  
CELEBRATION:

Mr. Spence told commissioners that Sunday, August 2nd has been set for the birthday celebration at Eagle Point Park. There will be free admission to the park, free cupcakes and lemonade, concerts at various times, activities for children, et cetera. Children's activities would include things like LT Entertainment, face painting and clown. Suggestions from commissioners included contacting Paul Hemmer for contact names; have historical information available; get the Telegraph Herald to do an article or series of articles on Eagle Point; find someone who actually worked on the building construction and have them present at the celebration to answer questions. Mr. Spence will continue to get input from people and update the commissioners each month at the meeting.

PARK DIVISION  
REPORT:

Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch informed commissioners:

- ◆ Budget was approved on Monday, March 9th. We requested money to plant prairie flowers at IDC by trail and we have ten to fourteen acres that will be converted to prairie mix -- \$29,000 was approved. There was \$25,000 approved for an urban forestry scoping study to get review/advice on the state of our urban forest. We have \$130,000 approved to resolve snow removal issues -- purchase an additional skid steer and retrofit four out front mowers with cabs and snow blowers and/or broom, and trailer them to areas for snow removal. ◆ Jeff Ahlers, Assistant Gardener, is still on Public Works payroll until April 1st but he has been cleaning up along the Riverwalk.

RECREATION  
DIVISION  
REPORT:

Recreation Division Manager Pat Prevenas informed commissioners:

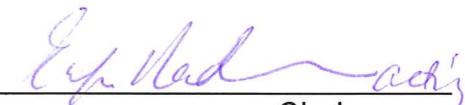
- ◆ **Golf** course is wet but frost is gone; hopefully will be able to open in March;
- ◆ March post season **basketball** tournament had 20 teams, same as last year; alumni tournament registration deadline is today; Modern and Classic divisions are full, and there are 4 women's teams; **softball** registration deadline is Friday.
- ◆ **Uptown** open gym numbers are up 45% from last year.
- ◆ Nothing changed on the **budget** except staff for multi-cultural family center and St. Mark's support were added to recreation budget.
- ◆ Last day of school is now June 8th so starting date for **summer programs** is backed up to the 15th.
- ◆ The Summer 2009 **brochure** will be sent to the printer next week and distributed at our City Expo on Tuesday, April 14.

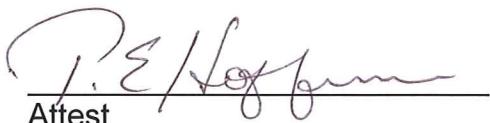
OTHER  
BUSINESS:

Commissioner Nadeau asked about indoor soccer -- citizens have asked her if it was possible to have someplace available; Manager Prevenas said we could look into it.

ADJOURN;  
VOTE:

It was moved by Duggan, seconded by Blocklinger, that the meeting be adjourned at 5:12 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

  
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Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attest