

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

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

PRESENT: Ken Klinge, Rebecca Kuhle, Karen Lyness and Jennifer Tigges

ABSENT: Robin Kennicker and Richard Kirkendall

STAFF PRESENT: Marie Ware, Steve Fehsal, Dan Kroger and Eileen Trimble

MINUTES APPROVED; VOTE:

It was moved by Lyness, seconded by Kuhle, to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2017, meeting. Unanimous.

RUSTIC POINT SUBDIVISION PARK AGREEMENT:

Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware told commissioners this subdivision is located by Derby Grange Road area and it will not be developed until there are enough funds in the specific TIF funding.

RECREATION DIVISION REPORT:

Recreation Division Manager Dan Kroger reported:

- Mr. Kroger met with full time Leisure Services staff to discuss the Equity survey they had completed to get feedback on the content, how the survey was administered, etc. The department's equity plan will be developed with involvement of staff, not just management level.
- Hiring process has begun for summer seasonal jobs.
- Staff are creating more programming partnerships.
- New partnership with Riverview Center is being developed around violence prevention as part of LEAP programs and summer playgrounds.

PARK DIVISION REPORT:

Park Division Manager Steve Fehsal reported:

- The City has been awarded an SRF grant (state revolving fund) by Iowa Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$320,000. The funding will be used for the implementation of the Eagle Point Park Environmental Restoration and Management.
- A \$70,000 grant in SRF funds related to the Catfish Creek Watershed will be used for restoration in Valentine Park. An RFP to provide soil quality restoration in the new parcel of land added to Valentine Park will be advertised soon. This is to help with storm water runoff.
- Highway 20 kickoff meeting is scheduled for next week.

- Consultant was chosen and awarded for Creek Wood Park project.
- Bid has been advertised for Eagle Point Park bridge complex roof replacement
- Forestry Technician job has been posted. The Civil Service test is scheduled for the end of January.
- Forestry crew are removing infected Ash trees as weather permits.
- Bald Eagle Watch is next Saturday at the Grand River Center from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The City is one of the many sponsors.

MANAGER REPORT:

Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware reported:

- The budget hearing with the City Council is February 15th. Staff are working on the department presentation for the budget hearing.
- The department has a lot of very large projects including Creek Wood Park development, Comiskey Park renovation, Skate Park, Highway 20, roofing projects and partnership with the Miracle League field.
- The City is working with the Veterans group that oversees the All Veterans' Memorial. It is their desire to turn over approximately \$126,000 for maintenance of the Veterans' Memorial and adding pavers into the future. The transfer of funds is in process.

Manager Ware asked to have a discussion at future meetings about new parks coming into the system in the future and naming them. The Commission agreed to this at future meeting. Commissioner Tigges asked if there could be a subcommittee to work on this. Staff will research process used to name some of the parks in the past and provide at future meetings.

COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS / QUESTIONS:

- Commissioners asked when the Gazebo in Washington Park was built. Manager Fehsal will check.
- Commissioner Tigges passed on a compliment regarding a tree removal on Ellen Street. She saw a post on Next Door from a citizen that thanked the crew for removing the tree. They did an excellent job cleaning everything up and worked well as a team.
- Commissioner Klinge commented that former Commissioner Kate Larson represented the Park and Recreation Commission very well and she will do a great job on the City Council.

ADJOURN; VOTE:

It was moved by Klinge, seconded by Lyness, to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. Unanimous.