

**City of Isanti
Park & Recreation Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2013
Isanti City Hall**

A. Call To Order

Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Park Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor George Wimmer, Jamie Bergwick, Clell Bone, Jennifer Garvey, and Aaron Zdon.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Lisa Wilson, Planning and Parks Director and Clark Joslin, City Attorney.

D. Agenda Modifications

Zdon questioned if there were any modifications to the agenda.

Wilson stated that she did not have any modifications for the Agenda.

Motion by Wimmer, second by Bone to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

E. Organization of Advisory Bodes as per Chapter 8 of the Isanti City Code

1. Oath of Office for all Park & Recreation Board Members

a. Clell Bone

Wilson stated that Mr. Bone had been re-appointed to the Board. Wilson stated that Mr. Bone is required to take an oath of office. Wilson stated that Mr. Bone would need to rise, raise his right hand and read from the oath that had been provided.

Bone recited the Oath of Office.

2. Review of Conflict of Interest Policy

City Attorney Joslin was present to provide information regarding the City's conflict of interest policy as well as to provide background regarding open meeting law. Joslin stated that when in doubt, check it out. Joslin stated that he would take questions from the Board regarding the information.

F. Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2013 Park and Recreation Board Meeting

Zdon stated that the minutes from the January meeting have been included for approval.

Motion by Bone, second by Bergwick to approve the January 22, 2013 Park and Recreation Board meeting minutes. Motion was unanimously approved.

G. Bluebird Family Fun Fest

John Bettendorf, 738 Park Brook Rd NW, was present to discuss the event with the Park Board members. Bettendorf stated that he was there on behalf of the Isanti Community Center Task Force and the Chamber

for a fundraiser for the community center. Bettendorf provided a handout containing information about the proposed event.

Bettendorf stated that he wanted to inform the group of the event. Bettendorf stated that it is new event and the planning has already started. Bettendorf stated that he wanted to get some feedback. Bettendorf stated that the purpose is to fundraise for the community center. Bettendorf stated that the park seemed like a fantastic place for the event; and the community center was already booked for the weekend that seemed the most logical to hold the event. Bettendorf stated that as the group started thinking about the park, there were a number of really cool ideas that were thrown out. Bettendorf stated that they are talking about a Saturday morning event. Bettendorf stated that the day would kick off with a 5K run and a walking event as well. Bettendorf stated that there would be a quarter mile kids run. Bettendorf stated that the events at the park are coming together, but they are looking at the Cub Scouts providing some kid's games as well as Snap Fitness will be sponsoring the 5K run. Bettendorf stated that they would be looking for assistance from the City to make this thing happen. Bettendorf stated that they would like Park Board endorsement of the event as well and that could come in whatever form possible. Bettendorf stated that they would also like to a walk from Bluebird Park into Legacy Park. Bettendorf stated that this could begin a few minutes after the run started. Bettendorf questioned whether the Park Board would be interested in hosting that event. Bettendorf stated that he would like to have them participate in the event.

Wimmer stated that he could not be there that morning at all, due to other obligations. Wimmer questioned why they wanted to wrap up by noon. Wimmer stated that if they could move the Legacy Park walk to later in the afternoon, he would be willing to host that event.

Bettendorf stated that could certainly happen. Bettendorf stated that if Mayor Wimmer would like to host that event, he would be more than happy to have him do so.

Zdon stated that would work out better.

Bettendorf questioned the time he would be available.

Wimmer stated that he could do that at noon.

Bettendorf stated that he could do that.

Wimmer questioned if they would be selling food out there.

Bettendorf stated yes. Bettendorf stated that the plan is to have one refreshment stand; run by volunteers. Bettendorf stated that they do not know what they are looking at in terms of attendance. Bettendorf stated that they were thinking about the meat market.

Wimmer stated that he could talk to Joe, as they help with the Mayor's Luncheon. Wimmer stated that they could come out and make some burgers. Wimmer stated that he would be willing to speak with them.

Bettendorf stated that the Intermediate School did a run this last fall and it was well attended. Bettendorf stated that he would believe they would do it again this year. Bettendorf stated that he would like to have a little more time planning this event, but once you get into June schedules are locked. Bettendorf stated that they do not want to conflict with Jubilee Days. Bettendorf stated that they do not want this to conflict with other runs associated with other events. Bettendorf stated that there will be an entry fee.

Wimmer questioned if they had prizes for the run lined up yet.

Bettendorf stated that he did not.

Wimmer stated that he would donate \$100 for first place.

Zdon stated that Startec would do \$50 for second place.

Bettendorf stated that he appreciated it. Bettendorf stated that he has not heard a bad thing about this. Bettendorf stated that BMX has an open house that day too, so the park will be full.

Bergwick stated that just having medals for the kid's events would be worth it.

Bettendorf stated that he would speak to both of them to ensure that the money is put to good use. Bettendorf stated that they would have a basketball shoot out. Bettendorf stated that there would be a gift card as a prize, but there would be a \$5 entry fee to participate. Bettendorf stated that it is a bit of a guess as to how successful it will be. Bettendorf stated that if they could raise a couple thousand dollars to help with some improvements at the community center that would go a long way. Bettendorf stated that he did speak with Dave Englund at the Arena, in case of rain, the event could be held there. Bettendorf stated that they could use the restrooms there as well. Bettendorf stated that he has some details to work out with staff. Bettendorf stated that the special event permit has to be approved. Bettendorf stated that it is run through the chamber for account purposes and to insure the event. Bettendorf stated that they have full participation from the chamber board.

Wimmer questioned if they would be doing a 3-on-3 tournament. Wimmer stated that the Redbirds did that during Jubilee Days.

Bettendorf stated they had discussed having the high school kids do a scrimmage, but have kids on the teams to help. Bettendorf stated that they wanted to use the basketball facility. Bettendorf stated that they would like to use the rink for roller blades and skates with music. Bettendorf stated that the ideas are coming together. Bettendorf stated that if there are concerns, he would like to hear those as well.

Wimmer stated that someone would need to speak with the reserves to ensure that they could be available that day. Wimmer stated everything will be on the permit form and it will hit the big items. Wimmer stated that you won't know the problems until after the event.

Bettendorf stated that they are doing early bird reservations for the run, so they can order t-shirts. Bettendorf stated that with food and prizes they will have to look at those too.

Wimmer questioned if they had spoken to the soccer group and the wake park.

Bettendorf stated with soccer it will depend upon what is going on there.

Zdon stated that they will be holding their event. Zdon stated that there will be a lot of people in the park.

Wimmer stated that cross promotion is a good thing.

Zdon stated that is the date of the BMX open house. Zdon stated that it is a spring free day.

Wimmer stated that the wake park guys could do a demo or something that day.

Zdon stated that he could speak to the wake park guys on this item.

Bettendorf stated that there are 6 to 10 volunteers outside of the group willing to help. Bettendorf stated that it is a good way to highlight the park and bring people out. Bettendorf stated that he has heard nothing but

positive things. Bettendorf stated that he may have questions for staff. Bettendorf stated that he has submitted the shelter application. Bettendorf stated that in working through the special event application, there are a lot of details that need to be in place before heading through Council. Bettendorf questioned if they need the approval before promoting the event and can the application head to council in late march.

Wimmer questioned what sort of things he would be worried about. Wimmer stated that bathroom facilities are usually a hang up. Wimmer questioned if staff agreed.

Wilson stated that Council has requested more facilities for these types of events.

Wimmer stated that the City gets complaints if there are not enough of these facilities.

Zdon stated that even with the facilities that are there, they are still going to need to bring ones in for their event.

Wimmer stated that most people get hung up on the insurance and the restroom facilities.

Bettendorf stated that the arena will help somewhat with that.

Wimmer stated that he would not count the arena stalls too much, as most people will not walk up there.

Bettendorf stated that parking will be at the arena and they would be looking to close 1st Avenue through the park.

Wimmer questioned why.

Bettendorf stated that the run is there and it would keep people from buzzing through the area while the event was taking place. Bettendorf stated what the route would be.

Wimmer stated that they are going to need to map the route and look at where they need traffic control. Wimmer stated that with closing the road, there will be more pointed questions from Council. Wimmer stated that they need to have those things buttoned down before they come to Council. Wimmer stated that anything that will disrupt people's lives need clarification.

Zdon questioned the actual closing location.

Bettendorf provided more details.

Zdon stated that is a lot of parking spots that may be needed for the various events. Zdon stated that the other groups are going to need to use those parking spaces and have access to them. Zdon stated that they may want to look at that.

Wimmer stated that he agreed.

Bettendorf stated that if it rains the event will take place the best it can.

Wimmer stated that he did like them using the bike-walk trail for a ride.

Bettendorf stated that is still in the planning stage. Bettendorf stated that he would like to speak to Anytime Fitness to see if they would be interested in this event. Bettendorf stated that they could ask Outdoor Edge, if Anytime is not interested.

Zdon stated that he needs to look at the whole schedule; and if need be, have the day run longer than noon.

Garvey questioned when the planning meetings are.

Bettendorf stated that he has been coordinating by e-mail or phone. Bettendorf stated that they would have one or two meetings with the group later. Bettendorf stated that they want people involved without committing to weekly meetings.

Garvey stated that she is very excited about this. Garvey stated that she would like to be involved, as this is what she does for a full-time job as a recreation programmer. Garvey stated that she didn't want to get into too many details that evening, but she would like to be involved as a resource.

Zdon stated that the hockey rink in the spring has a white residue on it. Zdon stated that they are going to want to wash it out before they use the facility. Zdon stated that his kids are full of it in the spring when they have been riding in there.

H. Bike-Walk Trail Directional Signs

Wilson presented the staff memo regarding the item. Wilson questioned what the Park Board's thoughts were on this item.

Wimmer stated that in the future, if the City is permitted to place a sign on County Road 5, they would be willing to do so. Wimmer stated that otherwise, in the other recommended locations, he is not sure how many people it would actually grab.

Garvey stated that communities place the brown park signs along thoroughfares in other communities and it does not seem to be an issue.

Wimmer stated that the County Engineer is against having additional signage and "clutter" along the County Road 5 right-of-way. Wimmer provided a brief history of additional signage inquiries and proposed crosswalk locations.

Wilson stated that if it was the consensus of the Park Board, she would provide that information to Mr. Wendorf.

Park Board members agreed.

I. Review of 2011 Comprehensive Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan

Wilson presented the staff memo.

Wimmer questioned if the group wants to work through the plan at the meetings or do we want a sub-committee to do so outside of the meetings.

Garvey stated that a sub-committee with board members and city staff would be more productive.

Wimmer questioned if there were people willing to do so.

Zdon and Bergwick stated that they would be interested.

Wimmer stated that they should occur during normal business hours with staff. Wimmer stated that they are going to need to look at financials and use. Wimmer stated that they need to be prepared to do heavy lifting.

Zdon questioned if the Mayor would rather be involved given that he knows the financials and is in town. Zdon stated that the likelihood that he would be in town during business hours will be difficult.

Wimmer stated that he would be happy to do so.

Zdon stated that he would like to take part, but he would step down from it. Zdon stated that three would be a quorum.

Wimmer stated that he wants whoever participates, it will be work. Wimmer stated that staff knows that if they get into a meeting and stuff is supposed to have been done and is not, it doesn't make him happy.

Wilson stated that staff tries to have all the information requested.

Wimmer stated that there were issues with a similar plan and process. Wimmer stated that staff will coordinate the meeting dates and times. Wimmer stated that he would like to have a report back by April, so it could be discussed at the park tour. Wimmer stated that a review could take place in March.

Motion by Bergwick, second by Bone to move forward with a sub-committee of the Park Board to include Bergwick, Wimmer and staff to review the Comprehensive Park Plan. Motion was unanimously approved.

J. Incomplete Sidewalk/Trail Issues

Wilson presented the staff memo.

Wimmer stated that he did not want to squash the idea. Wimmer stated that there are dozens of these areas in town. Wimmer stated that it is due to some council's wanting sidewalks and others not wanting sidewalks. Wimmer pointed out some of these areas. Wimmer presented areas where there is limited right-of-way for sidewalk construction and areas within the downtown when with reconstruction projects, sidewalks were not placed due to small lots and large trees. Wimmer stated that in the Comprehensive Plan, the goal was to place sidewalks in the more high capacity areas. Wimmer stated that the sidewalk connection on 5 is an example; and there is no financing source yet.

Wimmer stated that if they wanted to do this, then we need to focus on the high capacity areas, as identified in the comprehensive plan. Wimmer stated that the City has tried to do chunks along County roads. Wimmer stated that if we try to do the research and construction of all the segments identified, the cost would be huge. Wimmer stated that they can send to Council and they can give direction on how they want to proceed. Wimmer stated that the Council would need to make money available to do the job.

Motion by Wimmer, second by Garvey to recommend that the Council concentrate on the main routes (CSAH 5, Whiskey, etc.) before focusing on the smaller routes. Motion was unanimously approved.

K. Updates

1. Bike-Walk Trail Annual Meeting Notes

Wilson stated that the annual meeting notes with the discussion items noted were provided for the Board's review.

Wimmer stated that the biggest issue was the removal of a number of bolts on the bridge component.

Garvey questioned if they had been stolen.

Wimmer stated that they had simply been removed and left in scattered piles along the trail. Wimmer stated that the Cities repaired the bridge; and made sure that the bolts could not be easily removed in the future.

2. C-I Soccer Club

Wilson stated that the Soccer Club has submitted the special event application to host the state tournament in Isanti again this year. Wilson stated that the event will take place throughout April, May and a few days in June. Wilson stated that the item will be reviewed at the upcoming City Council meeting.

I. Adjournment

Motion by Bone, second by Bergwick to adjourn the February 26, 2013 Park and Recreation Board meeting. Motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting ended at 5:50 p.m.

Dated at Isanti, Minnesota this 26th day of March 2013.

Respectively submitted,

Lisa M. Wilson, AICP
Planning and Parks Director