

**CITY OF ISANTI
PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
March 28, 2017
City Council Chambers**

1. Meeting Opening.

A. Call to Order.

Zdon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call.

Members Present: Jennifer Garvey, Mayor Wimmer, James Witte, and Aaron Zdon

Staff Present: Katie Everett, Community Events and Parks Coordinator

D. Agenda Modifications.

Zdon asked if there were any agenda modifications. There were none.

Motion by Wimmer, second by Witte to approve the March 28, 2017 Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board Agenda. Motion was unanimously approved.

2. Approval of Minutes from February 28, 2017 Parks, Recreation and Culture Board Meeting.

Motion by Wimmer. Second by Garvey. Vote was unanimously approved.

3. Sand Removal Update at Isanti Hills and Mattson Parks

Everett stated that this was one of the last remnants of the prioritized list from 2015. Park Board had noticed the areas that had sand were getting sand burs, so our plan is to replace the remaining sand with wood chips, which is what we have everywhere else. A couple of things for the board to note: at Mattson Park, we measured (and swing zones have a ridiculous fall zone around them), so the swing set that's closest to the sidewalk right now is not in compliance. When the woodchips go in, they'll go pretty much up to the sidewalk to make sure we have the correct distance back from the swings. Otherwise, we're just doing the fall distances around any of the equipment with wood chips. There's kind of an awkward space between the two swing sets at Mattson that's sand, that will be grass so we're not paying to put woodchips in the middle of nowhere. The pictures are rough estimates, Everett stated she didn't measure on them, but wanted to give the board an idea. Staff looked at costs for getting more of the play curbing, and long term it's looking like a cement strip, similar to what we have at Bluebird, is going to be more maintenance efficient, if nothing else. We have noticed in a few different places that the play curb is warping. The playground rep said he's never heard of that happening before and didn't have a solution for it, and wasn't willing to replace any of it. For now, this new stuff we'll plan on doing a concrete curb. The ones out at Bluebird are a little fancier, these ones will just be a strip of concrete to keep the woodchips where they need to be.

We'll do some final measurements at Isanti Hills before all of that happens. We are going to keep just kind of a sand box so we can keep the diggers out there. The digging equipment we have needs to be replaced. It's something we'll look at the end of this year to see if we have it in the budget. They're about \$900 a piece, before freight and all the other things they charge us for. There are two different kinds, one has a seat and one doesn't, so one can be accessible. We'll make sure we get one of each. Towards the

middle of this year, if it doesn't look like we'll be able to get them, we'll budget for them next year. In the meantime, Public Works will tighten them up the best they can; the handles just get really wobbly on them. Then extra area that isn't in a fall zone and isn't the sand will become grass. That one is kind of a unique situation because the playground isn't dug in. So when you go out to Isanti Hills, we have that raised wood and then the playground is a step up. We may have to get a little creative with how that part is curbed to make sure we have the depth of woodchips that we need. Public Works has lots of creative people on staff, so we'll make sure that happens, and all of the footings are as deep as they need to be.

4. Parks and Program Updates

Everett stated that we did not get a very big turnout for New Hope Church. When the youth director was there, Everett asked how many kids they have in their program and he told her 100. They had 4 or 5 kids there volunteering and hadn't told anyone else. It was also spring break and it was nice outside and St. Patrick's Day. The last one is the Girl Scouts and the Little Prince. The Girl Scouts have never volunteered before, but seem very excited about it. They have also told Everett they're interested in participating in Earth Day.

The Cultivate Wellness sponsorship program, which combines opportunities to sponsor the community garden and the farmers' market, has been sent out. Everett worked with Economic Development to send it to more people this year that may be interested in town. They were given until May 1st, so they have some time. The Street Dance sponsorships are a separate program. Coborn's was very excited to get involved with that this year. Everett also sent them the Cultivate Wellness one, and they forwarded to the dietician to see if she had some interest in getting involved with it. Their dietician did attend the Two Cities event last year. Otherwise, the Street Dance sponsorships have the regular people back and then adding on Coborn's is great. Everett is meeting with Allina at the end of this week to talk about all kinds of ways we can get them involved now that their clinic is open. The Princeton Zimmerman farmers' market has a cool partnership with the Fairview over there. Doctors basically prescribe farmers' markets, and then patients come and have a \$2 coin they can spend there.

Wimmer stated that on a side note, someone will need to talk to Allina about their ribbon cutting because they're expecting 300+ people. We'll probably need a special event permit because they'll have people parking everywhere. Everett asked if he knew when it was; Wimmer stated the 6th of May. Zdon stated that is also City Wide Garage Sale. Everett stated she got a call from Harvest Church and they are interested in getting involved with the City Wide Garage Sale too, so lots of stuff will be happening that day. Wimmer stated that we don't actually do the City Wide Garage Sale. Everett confirmed, but stated that people just call the City because it's the only place they see information.

Everett stated that in other events, she also attended the Master Gardeners' Burst into Spring event. We just attend with a table and all of our City information and talk with Master Gardeners between classes and then all the people who attend the event. She pushed the Farmers' Market this year and let everyone know we're moving. It's a good place to connect with people who are interested in those kinds of things that we're doing. We've been to that a few years now.

Earth Day Clean Up is coming up. Everett stated she was at Legacy today and the trash is not that bad. If the groups, like Access Church and the Girl Scouts, do want to come, she thinks we can probably tap on some other parks too and get everything looking really good.

Signs are coming for the farmers' market especially. Additionally, in the park sign plan, Public Services Director Wood noticed that the Bike/Walk trail sign down on the far end is looking pretty rough. Everett will look into getting that made too. She's not sure if we'll want to match those signs with what's going on at the other parks, in which case we might want to do both. We can look at those and see what we've got budgeted.

The farmers' market location stuff is pretty much set. Public Works has some good ideas for helping us get on and off the grass with vendor trucks and that kind of stuff. Community Development Director Achman buttoned up the Interim Use Permit before her last day, so that will go to council on the 4th. Then it's just getting the word out and getting people there. Everett stated she was just talking with staff about potentially getting a snapchat filter for the farmers' market, so that could be really fun. She will look into the details, some of those you have to pay for, some you don't, but she's just looking at other ways to market to people, and have people share all of that stuff. Wimmer stated that we should get something at the liquor store so people know. Everett stated she asked the sign company she's been working with to quote a post and panel sign, which is similar to what is at the community center but with metal posts, and it was about \$3,000. So that is not what we'll do, but we are planning on having something there so people always know it's there. Wimmer stated we need to fix the downtown one too. Everett confirmed that we do, and that one we will be able to just remove stickers, so it shouldn't be too horrible to get it fixed.

Arts and Science Academy stuff is moving along. That also will be going to Council on the 4th. Basically, our agreement is going to be that during school days, they will have exclusive use of the playground and soccer field, and the rest of the park will be open for the public to use. All of the park will be available for the public to use during the rest of park hours. They'll also be helping with maintenance costs. Zdon asked if there's a timeline on that project. Everett stated that's a more interesting question than he knew. Zdon stated that then there's no concrete timeline. Wimmer stated that there is not, but they won't be able to expand unless they start getting this thing done. Everett stated that they would like sooner rather than later. Garvey asked if we have thought about putting a sign up at that location. Everett stated that it's part of the agreement as well. It states that we'll put up a sign that conveys what the agreement is. So, if somebody shows up from the daycare and wants to use the playground, it will be posted that it's for the school's use at that time.

Everett stated that next month is the annual parks tour. We will plan to meet here and leave from here. So far, priorities are to look at benches and tables at Mattson and Isanti Hills, and then signs especially at Bluebird. Wimmer stated to tell the Public Services Director that he wants the bridge in.

Wimmer stated that we had a meeting with BMX last week. It went okay, we're getting set up for the national coming up.

Garvey asked if Everett knew when the skate park equipment is getting moved. Everett stated that it will be soon, and the panels shipped on Monday she thought. Once we have all of the pieces that will begin. Wimmer added we'll move and repair; Zdon confirmed that those will happen simultaneously. Garvey asked if we have a way to get it out to the public that from this date to this date the skateboard equipment is going to be moved or unavailable. Even if it's a laminated sign on the equipment. Everett stated that she does have some signs for when they start working that will say it's closed for construction, but we can definitely put a post on the website explaining what's happening too. Garvey stated it may get one or two people's questions answered instead of having to call City Hall. At least it's a due diligence to notify the public about it.

5. Adjournment

Motion by Wimmer, second by Witte to adjourn the March 28, 2017 meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board. Motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Dated at Isanti, Minnesota this 28th day of February, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Katie Everett".

Katie Everett
Community Events and Parks Coordinator