

**CITY OF ISANTI
PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 25, 2013**

1. Meeting Opening.

A. Call to Order.

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

B. Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call.

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

Members Absent: Mayor Wimmer (gave prior notice).

Staff Present: Lisa Wilson, Planning and Parks Director.

D. Agenda Modifications.

Wilson stated that she had none.

Zdon requested a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion by Bone, second by Garvey to approve the June 25th, 2013 Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board Agenda. Motion was unanimously approved.

2. Approval of Minutes from May 28, 2013 Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board Meeting.

Zdon questioned if there were changes to the minutes.

Motion by Bone, second by Garvey to approve the May 28th, 2013 Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

3. Public Hearings.

A. Request from Kevin Riedemann, on behalf of the Rum River BMX Association, for Site Plan/Building Appearance Approval to allow for an accessory structure on the property located at 101 Isanti Parkway NW.

Wilson presented the staff memo. Wilson requested that the Park Board work through each of the points required by the Zoning Ordinance for approval and make findings for or against the proposal. Wilson stated that these would then be sent along with their recommendation to the City Council.

Zdon questioned if they should be addressed now.

Wilson advised to hold the hearing first.

Zdon opened the hearing at 5:04 p.m. Zdon questioned if the petitioner had anything to add.

Kevin Riedemann, Track Operator at Rum River BMX, stated that they would like to have the additional shed to help with some of the storage. Riedemann stated that as they have grown and taken things on, they want to keep the area looking nice. Riedemann stated that it is not good to have equipment sitting outside, as it is not good for the equipment, nor does it add value to the property to have it there.

Zdon questioned if others have questioned. Zdon questioned if the Board needed to go through the points noted.

Bone stated no, it was optional.

Wilson stated yes, the Board would need to make findings that the proposal meets the ordinance requirements noted on page 2 of the staff memo. Wilson stated that City staff places the Board findings into a formal document that is forwarded to the City Council along with their recommendation.

Zdon read through Item A. Zdon stated that Board needs to consider the relation of the project to the Park Comprehensive Plan.

Park Board members stated that they felt it did.

Garvey questioned if there needs to be a vote on each fact or just general consensus.

Wilson stated that they should work through the points. Wilson stated that the motion would state that they are approving or disapproving based upon the findings that they had presented. Wilson stated that if a member disagrees they could vote against the motion.

Zdon read through Item B. Zdon stated that he did not see any inconsistencies with City Code. Zdon questioned if a permit is necessary.

Riedemann stated that Mr. Foley had been in contact with the Building Official; and everything will be completed as they need to be. Riedemann stated that he was not aware of any issues.

Zdon read through Item C. Zdon stated that there are no trees to be affected and really no grass. Zdon stated that it is almost an extension of the existing building, but would meet setbacks.

Garvey questioned if there could be an issue with rain run-off or ruts underneath it.

Riedemann stated that there are rocks behind the building in this location.

Zdon read through Item D. Zdon stated that there is a lot of open space out on the property.

Bone stated that this is such a small building; it shouldn't be a big deal.

Zdon read through Item E.

Bergwick stated that this does not even apply to the request.

Zdon stated that there are no parking areas or driveways in this area.

Garvey questioned if there was the potential to have this area designated a walkway towards the back.

Zdon stated that the four wheelers park there when they come. Zdon read through Item F.

Garvey stated that the building does not pertain to this item.

Zdon read through Item G.

Bone stated that there are no issues. Bone stated that if the City Council has a public hearing and there were no comments.

Zdon questioned if there was anything with the City Council that they need to be aware of.

Wilson stated not at this time.

Zdon questioned if there were other comments. Zdon closed the hearing at 5:09 p.m.

Motion by Bone, second by Bergwick to recommend approval of the site plan/building appearance request for the Rum River BMX Association to place an accessory structure on the property located at 101 Isanti Parkway NW with no conditions based upon the Findings of Fact. Motion was unanimously approved.

4. Other Business.

A. Redbirds Batting Cage Proposal.

Wilson stated that Mrs. Lind-Livingston appears to be running late.

Zdon stated that they would shelf the item for a bit.

Wilson stated that the group has reviewed all of the other items on the agenda. Wilson stated that the group will need to just review this item. Wilson presented the information provided by the Redbirds.

Zdon stated that he is for the retractable nets. Zdon stated that this seems to be the way that groups are going. Zdon stated that the chain-link fence is ugly and causes issues. Zdon stated that kids do climb these and throw things up there. Zdon stated that the fields up by the high school have this kind of cage. Zdon stated that once retracted, all there is are the posts.

Garvey questioned the surface.

Wilson stated that it would be a rubber mat or turf.

Bergwick questioned issues with parking, easements, or walkways.

Zdon stated that there should be room north of the trail near the ball field.

Bone stated that they use the Rodeo grounds for parking.

Garvey questioned if they added the small closet, if they need to have a special approval.

Wilson stated as long as it is small for this facility, they should be okay. If the structure gets larger and will serve other purposes, then they would need to come back through the proper process.

Motion by Bergwick, second by Bone to recommend approval of the retractable net option. Motion was unanimously approved.

B. Tobacco Free Park Policy.

Wilson outlined the policy as drafted. Wilson questioned when the Park Board had discussed play areas, if they were referring to equipment areas or areas in which youth could have organized sports such as the baseball field or hockey rink, etc.

Bergwick stated that she was okay with play areas and shelters.

Bone stated that the shelter on 5th Avenue is an issue. Bone stated that kids are hanging out there all the time smoking.

Zdon stated that by default if youth are there in a ball field that would be considered a play area. Zdon stated that if you have adults there for league play, then it is a different situation.

Wilson stated that it can be removed. Wilson stated that we have to sign all of these areas.

Garvey stated that they just signed at the entrance. Garvey stated that she likes the idea of number three. Garvey stated that she can see the side of the adult activities when youth are not here, but it is very difficult to include a stipulation and enforce a stipulation that allow for it only when adults only are present.

Zdon questioned if they wanted to include these areas or remove it from the policy.

Garvey questioned if the City Council had discussed and provided direction on this item.

Wilson stated that the item went to the City Council, but they did not hold a discussion on this item. Wilson stated that if we do not want to go that far, we can take it out.

Bergwick stated that if we allow for tobacco products we should place containers, as there will be a mess.

Garvey stated even with the outpost for these, they are not used.

Bergwick stated that they should go for all three and this avoids issues with identifying youth versus adult areas.

Park Board members agreed.

Motion by Bergwick, second by Bone to recommend approval of the Tobacco Free Park Policy. Motion was unanimously approved.

C. June Mayor's Great Yard Award.

Garvey questioned if they should put them all out there and then discuss.

Zdon stated that each person usually provides their favorites and then they talk about them.

Each member provided their three top choices.

Motion by Garvey, second by Bergwick to recommend the following lawns for the June Mayor's Great Yard Award: (1) 1014 Hillock St NW, (2) 1107 Wendover St NW, and (3) 1301 Blossom Blvd NW. Motion was unanimously approved.

5. Discussion Items.

A. Updates.

1. Play curbing in City Parks.

Wilson stated that the Public Works staff did review each park and has identified around \$1700 worth that needs to be replaced.

Zdon stated that concrete would be more expensive and presents safety issues.

2. Skate Park Warranty.

Wilson questioned if Mr. Zdon had a chance to talk with his contacts and compare prices.

Zdon stated that it is a little bit less in price, but the pieces alone are \$650. Zdon stated that they are not going to be drilled or installed. Zdon stated that you can double that cost with staff time. Zdon stated that after he looked at it, it is cracked and probably is not worth replacing if they are not going to cover the cost.

Wilson stated that we are being told by MN/WI Playground that the company we worked with is no longer in business.

Zdon stated that they actually sold us the product though.

Wilson stated that she believes they were involved somehow.

Zdon stated that he used to help design these parks. Zdon stated that reps would sell the product. Zdon stated that if a grocery store sells pizzas from a place that is out of business and people get sick, the store is on the hook. Zdon stated that MN/WI Playground should still be on the hook, if they sold it with a warranty. Zdon stated that if it is not going to be covered. Zdon stated that the park was done in 2004; it has not even been 10 years. Zdon stated that there should be a warranty.

Wilson stated that she is having a hard time following and locating documentation on the park. Wilson stated that there are more than just these two panels cracked. Wilson stated that some additional panels that support these also need to be replaced. Wilson stated that the asphalt is also in some disrepair.

Zdon stated that the equipment is so heavy that it is settling into the ground. Zdon stated that it is still heavily used and can still be used.

Wilson stated that we are going to need to look at things out there in the park. Wilson stated that in speaking with the Public Works Director, they do not want to replace a portion and find that due to the disrepair in another area, it results in re-cracking of new pieces. Wilson stated that City staff would have to look at things.

Zdon stated that it is still useable. Zdon stated that there are no safety issues with what is there. Zdon stated that it is heavily used. Zdon stated that City staff needs to do some further digging before we start purchasing pieces. Zdon stated that these parks are expensive and there has to be some documentation that we can use.

Garvey questioned if we have talked with other companies that have sold similar equipment around that time period to see what the warranties may have been for that time period.

Wilson stated that City staff can try to look into that too. Wilson stated that City staff has been going through the files to find a contract for the equipment.

Zdon stated that MN/WI Playground should be able to type in our name and come up with something. Zdon stated that the City should not expend that amount of money without a little more research.

Wilson stated that she will look at a few more options as noted here.

Garvey stated that if we get stuck, send her a reminder e-mail, and she will try to help.

Zdon stated that he thought it was American Ramp Company.

Wilson stated that she believes the recent quote had come from them, and they did not have us in their system.

Zdon stated that it might be stamped on the equipment somewhere.

Wilson stated that she would look.

3. Legacy Park – Signage.

Wilson stated that they did find a place where we can craft our own sign. Wilson provided the draft language.

Board members agreed with the proposal.

4. Handicapped Swing – Bluebird Park.

Wilson explained the harness attachment. Wilson stated that it will have to go on the swing. Wilson stated that Public Works was going to make it as difficult as possible to be removed.

5. Isanti Parks Insurance Inventory.

Zdon questioned if any action needed to be taken on the inventory.

Wilson stated no. Wilson stated that it is being provided for information purposes based upon a review by the insurance provider of the various parks. Wilson stated that further information will be forwarded along to the Park Board at the next meeting.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Bergwick, second by Garvey to adjourn the June 25th, 2013 meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board. Motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Dated at Isanti, Minnesota this 23rd day of July 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Wilson, AICP
Planning and Parks Director