

**CITY OF ISANTI  
PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURE BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 23, 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 (arrived at 5:05 p.m.), Jennifer Garvey, Mayor Wimmer and Aaron Zdon.

**Members Absent:** Clell Bone (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 Garvey, second by Wimmer to approve the July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board Agenda. Motion was unanimously approved.

**2. Approval of Minutes from June 25, 2013 Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board Meeting.**

Zdon questioned if there were changes to the minutes.

Motion by Garvey, second by Wimmer to approve the June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

**3. Public Hearings.**

**A. None.**

**4. Other Business.**

**A. Loss Control Recommendations.**

Wilson presented the information in the staff memo as well as outlined the suggestions provided within the Loss Control spreadsheet.

Garvey questioned if having the pet containment or waste bags had been discussed previously.

Wilson stated that staff does receive information regarding these items in the mail. Wilson stated that the units and the bags can come at a significant cost to the City. Wilson stated that there are concerns as to if individuals could leave the units alone.

Wimmer stated that is unfortunately true. Wimmer stated that someone ripped the Legacy Park sign pamphlet box off today. Wimmer stated that parks do have this in other cities. Wimmer stated that it seems like anything we put out gets destroyed. Wimmer stated that it is a good idea, but we need to look

at the pricing and determine how we could offer this without having to send public works out to the parks to clean-up an even bigger mess.

Garvey stated as for the formal preventive maintenance plan, she would like to defer that to staff. Garvey stated that they know it best, and if it needs to be completed more frequently, it is still up to staff to implement that portion and what is necessary.

Wimmer stated that when Mr. Fleischhaker was hired, this was discussed. Wimmer stated that they wanted to see public works have rounds through the parks. Wimmer stated that there should be something every month, whether it is a Monday morning or a Friday afternoon, and inspect everything.

Zdon stated that they could do a thorough inspection once a month. Zdon stated that they could catch something if it is dangerous or broken. Zdon questioned if that would be public works.

Wimmer stated yes.

Zdon questioned the status of the item. Zdon questioned if staff was looking for direction.

Garvey questioned if the recommendations should come step by step or just a general overall reaction to the list.

Wimmer stated that if there is anything specifically that the park board wants to do as a board, they should do so. Wimmer stated that if not, they would leave it in staff's capable hands. Wimmer stated that in terms of the off-leash item, he does not agree. Wimmer stated that people who don't follow the signs, they won't follow the signs.

Zdon questioned if there was movement from the young lady that wanted to spearhead the dog park.

Wilson stated no. Wilson stated that her information had been forwarded to Mr. Sullivan to help with the Farmer's Market.

Garvey stated that the brochure item was left. Garvey questioned if there should be a guideline in place that would require the document to be updated every so often. Garvey stated rather than doing this randomly.

Wimmer stated that as they review the long term plan for the parks, previously it was triggered when we had something new. Wimmer stated that having it on a rotating year or two year basis may be a good thing.

Garvey stated again that she was not sure if that formally needed to be set as a policy. Garvey questioned if that was something that the board has to update.

Zdon stated the City has added Legacy Park and the wake park. Zdon stated that he thought we were due for an update.

Garvey stated that as a growing community, this will continuously happen.

Zdon stated that he was not sure a time frame was needed, as there may be no new parks in the next two years.

Wimmer questioned if there was anything the board wanted to do. Wimmer stated that it seems that the board would rather have these handled internally by staff.

Motion by Garvey, second by Wimmer to recommend that staff review the items on a staff basis rather than on a park board basis. Motion was unanimously approved.

B. Proposed 2014 Budget for Parks, Recreation, and Culture.

Wilson presented the staff memo and walked through some of the budget information.

Wimmer stated that the meetings were a mixed bag today. Wimmer stated that it is in there and they are trying to get some of the revenues tied, to build the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Department. Wimmer stated that whether it is fees from fields or community center fees, those things will be added as well as the funds from the wake board park. Wimmer stated that we can start seeing an actual operating budget for parks. Wimmer stated that staff will have a better idea of the dollars that are there.

Garvey stated that she did not have questions. Garvey questioned if there is a motion necessary.

Wilson stated no.

Zdon stated that the actual and the proposed are very tight.

C. Tobacco Free Park Signs.

Wilson presented the information on the item. Wilson stated that the Council extended the tobacco free areas to Unity Park Ballfield.

Wimmer stated that was incorrect. Wimmer stated that it is to anywhere there is an organized activity, where games are played.

Wilson stated okay.

Wimmer stated that if there is a misunderstanding by staff that needs to be addressed.

Bergwick stated that the free signs are nice.

Wilson stated that we would go through with ordering as many signs as are necessary. Wilson stated that the policy needs to be reviewed by the group before they will issue the signs.

Zdon stated with Unity Field it would be in the ball field.

Wimmer stated that if we developed another field or at the wake park, wherever we have a group or gathering, smoking or tobacco is not allowed.

Zdon questioned if that is within the fenced area.

Wimmer stated that we are not going to bust someone in the open field.

Zdon stated that would be for someone smoking within the fence area at BMX, but not if they were on the trail.

Wimmer stated that was right.

Wilson stated that she would follow-up on the organized activity areas, as that was not provided in the Resolution as such. Wilson stated that she would check with Miss Henning.

Zdon questioned if staff would be ordering the signs.

Wilson stated yes.

Garvey questioned if a motion was necessary.

Wilson stated no. Wilson stated that action had already been taken by the City Council as part of the policy to place the signs.

D. July Mayor's Great Yard Award.

Park Board members discussed the various nominees.

Wimmer stated that anyone not chosen this round will remain on the list for next month.

Motion by Bergwick, second by Garvey to recommend approval of 1108 Blossom Blvd NW, for first place; 802 5<sup>th</sup> Ave SW, for second place; and 903 Winsome Way NE, for third place. Motion was unanimously approved.

**5. Discussion Items.**

A. Updates.

1. Skate Park Improvements and Warranty.

Wilson presented the information that was provided in the staff memo regarding this item.

Zdon stated that Cambridge's site is concrete. Zdon stated that when the bituminous was laid, it was like they realized they were low and patched it. Zdon stated that it is not only low, but bumpy. Zdon stated that it is usable.

Wimmer stated that going over the costs, it is not cheap. Wimmer questioned if staff had information on the costs.

Wilson stated that it is expensive. Wilson stated one sheet is over \$600.

Bergwick stated that the kids want to see more and different types of equipment out there.

Zdon stated that he agrees. Zdon stated that he would like to see items as well, but he understands the cost.

Wimmer stated that to get it where it needs to be functional, then \$20,000. Wimmer stated for it to be competitive, we are looking at \$100,000.

Zdon stated that he was at the Plymouth facility over the weekend. Zdon stated that they now construct plazas and it had to be a million dollar park.

Wimmer stated that this is one of those apparatuses that we are going to have to have the nasty internal discussion.

Bergwick stated that it offers something for older children. Bergwick stated there is separation between the younger kids and the older kids, which is nice.

Wimmer stated yes, but we need to do what we can afford. Wimmer stated that we have a number of decisions to make. Wimmer stated that he really liked the skate park before Cambridge put theirs in. Wimmer stated that Cambridge had just started park and recreation around that time; and before that they really didn't do much as an organized city. Wimmer stated

that when they started to get park and recreation dedication dollars, they started to do some really neat things. Wimmer stated that we have had the discussion of do we want to repeat everything in each city. Wimmer stated that they have a really nice place up there.

Zdon stated that there are a lot more bikes on our park.

Wimmer stated that they are not supposed to be there, as it is posted as such.

Zdon stated that the two get along really well together though.

Wimmer stated that we need to figure out if this is what we want, and the board wants to push for this, it is a great apparatus. Wimmer stated that it is fantastic, but the board is really going to have to push for it. Wimmer stated that this is one of those areas where the majority of the Council has not looked at that as more favorable. Wimmer stated that it is going to be difficult because it is extremely expensive.

Zdon stated that there is one sheet that is completely cracked that needs to be replaced.

Wilson stated that she did see that when standing out there at the event.

Zdon stated that they have the hardware, which is just maintenance stuff.

Wimmer questioned if Zdon, Nick, and Lisa could meet out there and see what can be done from a basic maintenance perspective and then see what the costs are for the one board. Wimmer stated that they need to look at the emergency items and see the costs now. Wimmer stated that he would like to see those items taken care of so that someone does not get hurt.

Zdon stated that the asphalt is not optimal, but it works. Zdon stated that the weight of the equipment has resulted in them sinking in a bit. Zdon stated that they could be jacked up and moved a bit to cover those rough areas. Zdon stated that to re-layer it will be expensive.

Wimmer stated that he would like to see the three individuals meet to review and discuss.

Zdon stated that he could definitely do so. Zdon stated that Mrs. Wilson could e-mail him and set up a time to review the park for the emergency items, so that it is safe and usable. Zdon stated that we should be getting the youth involved. Zdon stated that the youth were involved doing fundraising the first time around.

Wimmer questioned if that was talked about at the skate don't hate night event.

Wilson stated that she had spoken with the kids and with Officer Gau. Wilson stated that the officer had forwarded along some grant information that he had received. Wilson stated that in that conversation it was noted that with fundraising it can be difficult for the kids unless they have someone like the City or a larger organization helping to back the fundraising events.

Zdon stated that the Town Board Shop is fundraising. Zdon stated that to just add an item every five years that would be great. Zdon stated that if there was just something new and there is a big open area out there to place items.

Wimmer stated that Mrs. Wilson will let the Mayor know the costs and he will see if he can get that into the budget.

## 2. Legacy Park – Signage.

Wilson stated that the sign prohibiting motorized vehicles has been placed at the park. Wilson stated that the sign notifying individuals to stay off the rocks and out of the water has also been ordered.

**6. Adjournment**

Motion by Garvey, second by Bergwick to adjourn the July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Board. Motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Dated at Isanti, Minnesota this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lisa M. Wilson, AICP  
Planning and Parks Director