

**City of Isanti
Park & Recreation Board
Regular Meeting Minutes of
September 23, 2008
Isanti City Hall**

A. Call To Order

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

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call

Members Present: Board Chair George Wimmer, Clell Bone, Bridgette Parker and Aaron Zdon

Members Absent: Yvonne Kennedy

Staff Present: Carla Vita, Community Development Director

D. Agenda Modifications

Wimmer questioned if there were modifications to the Agenda.

Vita stated no.

Motion by Bone, second by Zdon to approve the Agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

E. Approve Minutes from August 26, 2008 Meeting

Motion by Zdon, second by Parker to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Evergreen Apartments – Trail along County Rd 5 NE

Vita presented the staff memo. No action was taken as the item was informational.

G. Oak Wilt Issue

Vita presented the staff memo, funding for the oak wilt remediation and reimbursement.

Wimmer questioned if Klocksien had visited other City properties for oak wilt. Sam Klocksien, County Forester, stated that an additional tree is diseased in the Palomino neighborhood on private property.

Wimmer questioned if the City has a diseased tree ordinance. Vita stated that the City does have an ordinance on diseased trees. Klocksien stated that the County does not have an ordinance mandating diseased tree removal. Klocksien stated that he meets with landowners on their diseased tree concerns and informs them on possible remedies.

Wimmer stated that he wants tree issues to be handled through the Park & Recreation Board to ensure institutional knowledge. Wimmer stated that ash trees will be another tree situation soon. Wimmer questioned how the City can get ahead of the tree issues.

Klocksien stated that ordinances that are amended to treat pests and diseases that affect trees are important. Klocksien stated that ash trees can only be removed when they are infected; there is not a treatment. Klocksien continued that the ash tree disease situation is currently in eastern Wisconsin, but could easily be brought to this area. Klocksien stated that the diseased tree next to the soccer fields was easy to see. Klocksien informed that early detection is important.

Wimmer stated that City ordinances already dictate a variety of trees on a property, but have noticed many maple trees in his neighborhood. Wimmer stated that a maple tree disease would have an impact on the City. Wimmer questioned the need for further regulation on the types of trees.

Klocksien stated that good diversity within the ordinance is important. Klocksien stated that he is willing to look at the tree list for diversity. Klocksien stated that he performs site checks on problem trees. Klocksien informed the Board that his position as County Forester ends December 2008.

Wimmer questioned if Klocksien is planning to meet with the private landowner with the diseased tree. Klocksien stated that he plans to meet with the homeowner. Klocksien stated that the tree die back situation at the soccer fields could get worse in the future with insects.

Wimmer offered his assistance with the property owner if they have concerns.

Motion by Bone, second by Parker to recommend the remediation and removal of the diseased tree next to the soccer fields by using Park & Recreation contracted services funds. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Handicapped Picnic Table

Vita presented the Staff memo. Wimmer stated that Staff is proposing the use of funds of \$500 from the Rotary and \$515 from the Park Dedication funds.

Motion by Zdon, seconded by Parker to recommend to the City Council the acquisition of the picnic table from Minnesota / Wisconsin Playground number 82GVPHC to the City Council using the \$500 from the Rotary and the remaining funds from the Park & Recreation Dedication fund. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Updates

(1) Riverside Park Light

(2) City Flag Design Contest

Wimmer stated that Community Pride Bank is donating \$250 towards the contest.

Wimmer informed that the deadline for submission to the contest is October 22, 2008.

(3) Bike / Walk Trail

J. Adjournment

Motion by Bone, second by Parker to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Dated at Isanti Minnesota, this 28th day of October 2008.

Respectively Submitted,

Carla MK Vita, Community Development Director