

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, January 9, 2018

1. Call to order by Beth Arneberg at 6:00 p.m.  
Roll Call: Members Present: Audrey Stowell, Dale Berg, Carmen Muenich, Beth Arneberg, Heidi Hoekstra and Rob Kiefer. Absent: Nate Seckora.  
Staff present: Dick Hebert and Josh Kriesel.
2. Approval of December 12, 2017, Minutes: **Motion by Muenich/Kiefer to approve December 12, 2017, minutes. Motion passed.**
3. Personal Appearances By Citizens. None.  
Nate Seckora arrives.
4. Discuss / Consider Special Event Applications: There is one new special event and four renewals. Muenich raises concern that rental fees are waived for some groups. **Motion by Kiefer/Arneberg to approve special event application of Tinkergarten as presented. Motion passed. Motion by Kiefer/Hoekstra to approve special event application of Pure Water Days RiverFest as presented. Motion passed. Motion by Kiefer to approve special event application of The Past Passed Here as presented. Discussion regarding event, fee and work done by Park employees. Motion seconded by Stowell. Motion passed with Muenich opposing. Motion by Kiefer/Berg to approve special event application of Chippewa Falls Farmers Market as presented. Motion passed with Muenich opposing. Motion by Kiefer/Hoekstra to approve Mass with Bishop for Diocesan Sesquicentennial on 08/26/18 as presented. Motion passed.**
5. Discuss/Consider:
  - a. Discuss Improvements to Welcome Center. Chad Oster of CBS Squared discusses construction project to fix drainage of upper duck pond & parking lot. The waterway from duck house to duck pond will be widened and made deeper, power will be moved underground, and parking lot will be raised. There will also be landscaping and plantings as well as new fencing and additional lighting. The walk path will remain the same. Phase One will be grading and earthwork and basically dealing with the drainage issues. Parking lot grade will be done in Phase Two. Bids will be opened on Feb. 9. Construction is expected to be done by fall.
  - b. Discuss Erickson Park Improvement Project. Ron Bakken is present. Bids will be advertised and will be discussed at March meeting. In final push to raise remaining funds. Approximately \$167,000 left to raise before March.
  - c. Discuss Riverfront Park. Discuss food trucks, revising special event applications for food trucks, park amenities that might be rented out. **Motion by Hoekstra to form subcommittee of Muenich, Arneberg, Seckora and Hebert to review rental fees and policies with intent to form consistency. Seconded by Seckora. Motion passed.**

- d. Urban Forestry Grant Update. Dick Hebert reports that this is now complete and reimbursement should be received soon.
  - e. Flats Neighborhood Park. Dick Hebert reports there's no progress. A member of the public did raise a concern that the playground was unapproachable by younger kids due to older kids hanging out there. Additional police patrol was suggested.
  - f. Casper Park Softball Press Boxes. Dick Hebert reports that Department Staff are working with local building contractors to gather proposed costs to build two press boxes on the softball fields.
  - g. Recreation Report. Josh Kriesel reports that volleyball and basketball leagues are going well. He has started a pickle ball open play on Wednesdays at the Middle School. He will have information on that out to the public soon.
  - h. Director Report. Dick Hebert reports takedown of Christmas Village is going well.
6. Approve Claims. Claims reviewed. **Motion by Muenich/Hoekstra to approve claims of \$26,158.27. Motion passed.**
7. Park Board Members' Concerns or Comments. Wood from ash borer trees is being sold with the funds being marked for replacement trees or equipment. There is a boulevard tree replacement program through the City; homeowners are responsible for watering. Mayor Hoffman thanks Board members for willingness to serve. Christmas donation boxes need to be revamped – more accessible to drivers and easy to make deposits. Would like to discuss fees for food trucks and Welcome Center rental next month.
8. Adjournment. **Motion by Muenich/Arneberg to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Motion passed.**

Submitted by:

Audrey Stowell, Secretary