

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, January 13, 2015

1. Call to order by Beth Arneberg at 6:01 p.m. at City Hall Basement Auditorium.  
Roll Call: Members Present: Audrey Stowell, Dale Berg, Beth Arneberg, Heidi Hoekstra, Carmen Muenich, Rob Kiefer, and Nate Seckora.  
Department Staff present: Dick Hebert, Tommy Eisenhauer.
2. Approval of December 9, 2014, Minutes: **Motion by Carmen Muenich/Dale Berg to approve the December 9, 2014, minutes.** Motion carried.
3. Personal Appearances By Citizens. None.
4. Discuss/consider Special Event Applications. Dick reports that the EPA Smoke School Training would like to again reserve Marshall Park. This time for May 13, 2015. **Motion by Dale Berg/Heidi Hoekstra to approve application.** Arneberg asked whether the public is able to use the skateboard park during the training, and Dick responded that they are. **Motion passed.**
5. Discuss/Consider.
  - a. Presentation on Irving Park Road Improvements by Todd Berg, City Engineering Dept. Todd distributed an aerial photo and drawings of proposed improvements. Improvements would include a sidewalk on the west side of Bear Den Road from Bridgewater to Irvine Park Drive. Curb would be installed on Irvine Park Drive down from Jefferson. The intersection at Irvine Park Drive and Bear Den Road would be narrowed. Bear Den Road will also have a more uniform grade, and water will drain down to Bridgewater. Discussed off-road parking near the old campground. Estimates were also provided; this will be paid for with bonded money. Construction will hopefully begin in April.
  - b. Irvine Park Welcome Center / Small Animal / Aviary Building
    - i. Discuss hiring construction manager
    - ii. Discuss future construction scheduleBob Sworski indicated that seven companies presented bids; however, they were in various formats making it difficult to compare. After discussion, it will be rebid for February meeting. Also discussed bidding for the pool roof, which is ready to go out for bids.
  - c. Update Handicap Fishing Pier Project in Erickson Park. Dick presented the history of the project. The project would provide a place for those with disabilities to have parking, ease of travel, larger pier, and ability to catch fish. The goal is that it would be multi-use and include fishing, picnicking, canoe / kayak launch, and a stand-up paddleboard launch. Dick reported that the City is committed to keeping Ashley Road as a service road at its current width. Nate reported he has hiked the area and

does not believe it's really feasible to develop any trails there because of the size of the area to the north and the swamp area to the south. After discussion, **motion by Carmen Muenich/Dale Berg to support and approve the concept of and proceeding with the Handicap Fishing Pier Project in Erickson Park with the following stipulations: Park Board would have final approval of the plan project; City funds would not be available for project costs, including maintenance; project committee would work with all applicable City departments and meet all city, state, & federal regulations; project would also bear all fees and license costs. Motion carried.**

- d. Metal Detecting in City Park Facilities. Ken Briggs and other members of Three Seasons Treasure Hunters, LLC, were present and discussed with the Board possible policy and permit procedures to regulate metal detecting in City Parks. No action taken at this time.
  - e. Directors Report. Discussed February meeting date. Discussed having construction manager bids opened the day before the meeting, so any questions could be answered and information obtained prior to the meeting. Donation accounts were also reviewed.
- 6. Approve Claims. Claims and donation accounts were presented. **Motion by Rob Kiefer/Carmen Muenich, to approve claims of \$55,426.07. Motion carried.**
  - 7. Board Member comments or concerns. Nate indicated that while hiking Erickson Park, he came across some animal traps. He would like to discuss whether trapping should be allowed in City parks at a future meeting.
  - 8. Adjournment. **Motion by Carmen Muenich/Rob Kiefer, to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. Motion carried.**

Submitted by:

Audrey Stowell, Secretary