

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, February 12, 2013

1. Call to order by Curt Stepanek at 5:59 p.m.
Roll Call: Members Present: Beth Arneberg, Curt Stepanek, Heidi Hoekstra, and Carmen Muenich. Absent: Audrey Stowell, Jane Lardahl, and Dale Berg.
Staff present: Dick Hebert, Megan Robarge. Mayor Greg Hoffman and Alderman Bill Hicks also present.
2. Approval of January 8, 2013, Minutes: **Motion by Carmen Muenich, seconded by Beth Arneberg to approve the January 8, 2013 minutes as presented. All present voting aye.**
3. Personal Appearances By Citizens. None.
4. Discuss / Consider Special Event Applications: Dick presented a new special event for Chippewa River Industries on, Friday, June 14, 2013 at the Main Pavilion. This event will be an employee picnic with a dunk tank. Dick recommends the Park Board remain consistent with the \$25 application fee and full rental rate. Chippewa River Industries will only allow their employees to be in the dunk tank and will send over a copy of their insurance shortly. **Motion by Heidi Hoekstra, seconded by Curt Stepanek, to approve the special event permit for Chippewa River Industries on Friday, June 14, 2013 at the Main Pavilion. No further discussion, all present voting aye.**

Dale Berg, Jane Lardahl, and Audrey Stowell arrive at this time.

5. Discuss / Consider:
 - a. Department Community Foundation Funds Update. Melinda Haun of the Community Foundation presented the status of our departments funds in the foundation. She suggested converting the Irvine Park Endowment Fund from a Field of Interest to a Designated Fund. This will allow the funds to be used without going through the grant process. Also presented account balances and amounts available for disbursement. **Motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Curt Stepanek, to change the Irvine Park Endowment Fund category from a Field of Interest Fund to a Designated Fund; to reinvest the \$3,721.00 available to grant from the William Irvine Fund into the Chippewa Falls Parks, Recreation and Forestry Endowment Fund; to reinvest the \$6,908.00 available from the Chippewa Falls Parks, Recreation and Forestry Endowment Fund back into that fund; and to reinvest the \$13,274.00 available from the Irvine Park Endowment Fund back into that fund. After discussion, motion carried.**
 - b. Director Report. Mayor Hoffman and Alderman Hicks gave their thoughts to the Board as to what its role and responsibility is. Mayor Hoffman sees our role as directing the vision of the Park system to keep it as the jewel it is and our challenge as taking that vision back to the community and obtain its support. Dick reports that he recently received approximately \$28,000 from the Charles

Dumars Estate. Another distribution will take place in the future. Purchasing additional benches at the band shell was also discussed. Dick also reported that Steve Szydel will not be able to coordinate the Music in the Park program this summer. Dick recommends trying to line up individuals for Pure Water Days weekend only this year.

- c. Personnel.
 - i. Parks Foreperson Position. Dick reports that approximately 100 applications were received. These will be reviewed, and hopefully interviews will take place next week. The goal date for the new person to start would be mid-March.
 - d. Fundraising Strategy to Repair, Remodel, or Replace the Outdoor Pool. Dick reports that he got the feeling that the general consensus should be to replace the bathhouse. He feels the best way to proceed is to obtain a design for a new bathhouse. A scope of services will be prepared, and then he will get bids for the design of a new building. The plan will be to get someone hired to prepare the design after the March meeting. We will then have the building design to present to the community when seeking donations.
 - e. Recreation Report. Megan Robarge reports that winter adult leagues as well as youth programming will be wrapping up in the next few weeks. Registrations for spring activities will be starting.
 - f. Parks Report. Dick reports the staff has been working on snow removal and finalizing the take-down of Christmas Village.
 - g. Zoo Report. Dick indicates that with regard to the delamination issue to the bear and tiger exhibit, the entities contacted have suggested the problem may be that we have glass and polycarbonate windows together. This is their preliminary thought; they will be taking a closer look and reporting back. Work on the cougar platform is continuing. Also, the bear exhibit has an auto-watering system, and they are looking into putting this type of system in the cougar and hibernation areas. Dick reports that he is also working to get a group going of individuals from small zoos such as ours to discuss ideas.
6. Approve Claims. **Motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Carmen Muenich, all present voting aye, to approve claims of \$24,495.14.**
 7. Board Member comments or concerns. None.
 8. Adjournment. **Motion by Carmen Muenich, seconded by Heidi Hoekstra, all present voting aye, to adjourn at 7:12 p.m.**

Submitted by:

Megan Robarge and Audrey Stowell, Secretary