

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, May 14, 2013

1. Call to order by Curt Stepanek at 6:00 p.m.
Roll Call: Members Present: Curt Stepanek, Audrey Stowell, Beth Arneberg, Heidi Hoekstra, Dale Berg and Carmen Muenich. Absent: Jane Lardahl.
Staff present: Dick Hebert, Megan Robarge.
2. Approval of April 9, 2013, Minutes: **Motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Heidi Hoekstra, to approve the April 9, 2013, minutes. Motion carried.**
3. Personal Appearances By Citizens. Jacob Nash appeared. He proposes a fundraising event for Irvine Park whereby he will run laps through the park for a 12-hour period and collect a pledge donation for each lap. Park staff would help with the marketing. He indicates previously he ran laps in the park totaling 51 miles. He did this in 10 hours. He indicates he has no preference for the use of the funds as long as they are used within Irvine Park. August is the probable timeframe. Board is supportive of his efforts.
4. Discuss / Consider Special Event Applications:
 - a. Chippewa Valley Bible Church. This event does not meet the criteria for a special event. No discussion.
5. Discuss / Consider:
 - a. CBS Squared, Inc. Zoo Design Presentation. Bryant Christenson of CBS² presents revisions to the welcome center based on comments from the April meeting. The new proposal is discussed. Board members express a desire for a portable wall. This will be incorporated into the design. This will allow for part of the building to be closed off and used as a meeting room if needed. Dick advised of his discussions with a UW Eau Claire professor and the curator at the Chippewa Valley Museum and ideas for student projects that would help us with displaying the artifacts.
 - b. New Bathrooms in Irvine Park. Discussion and agreement in using precast for the new bathrooms and having color options available at the June meeting. The goal is to work on the project this fall. Dick distributes SEH's proposal for demolition assessment. The project needs to be bid, and the building is in the flood plain. He called SEH and distributes their proposal for Demolition Assistance. This will include identifying any asbestos or lead paint that would need to be removed prior to demolition. The cost for the assessment is \$2,500. **Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Heidi Hoekstra, to allow the Director to proceed with the contract with SEH for Demolition Assistance at Irvine Park Restroom – Bridgewater Avenue as proposed subject to bonding money being available. Motion passed.**
 - c. Director Report. Dick distributes the Outdoor Parks & Recreation Plan, which will be discussed at the June meeting. Dick reports the new employee has been hired.

His name is Joe Smith; he started on May 1. There have been many generous volunteer groups helping with the spring work at the Park. Because of the weather, work is behind schedule and the Park would not be ready without the help of these groups. They include the Rotary Club, Mason Shoe employees, United Way Day of Giving (Regis & UW-EC students), Chippewa Falls Middle School students, Cornell Middle School students, Central Lutheran Church, Chi Hi Track Team, the Correction Facilities inmates, Chi Hi & McDonnell baseball teams as well as others. Dick distributes the rack cards made by Megan and Katie, which will be used for donations. He also reported on the Kell's Corner construction, which is underway.

- d. Recreation Report. Megan passed out the Summer/Fall brochure and reports delays and a couple of cancellations of activities because of weather.
 - e. Casper Park Report. Dick reports that general spring work is being done at Casper and all parks.
 - f. Parks Report. No report.
 - g. Zoo Report. Petting zoo will be open on Memorial Day weekend.
6. Approve Claims. **Motion by Carmen Muenich, seconded by Audrey Stowell, to approve claims of \$31,811.81. Motion passed.**
7. Board Member comments or concerns. Dick reports that a new nozzle will be installed at the fountain to reduce water flow. We will see how that works. A tour of the neighborhood parks and various zoo projects are discussed. Carmen reports that the Snout Bar is having a fundraiser for the Zoo this Saturday starting at 5 p.m. and invites all to stop by.
8. Adjournment. **Motion by Carmen Muenich, seconded by Dale Berg, to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. Motion passed.**

Submitted by:

Audrey Stowell, Secretary