

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, April 10, 2007

6:00 p.m.

- 1) Call to order by President Curt Stepanek.
- 2) Roll Call: Members Present: Curt Stepanek, Lisa Bjork, Dale Berg, Brian Flynn, and Bob Hoekstra. Absent: Audrey Stowell and Tony Kovach
Staff present: Bill Faherty, Dick Hebert, Chuck Cyr, Jennifer London, and Ade King.
- 3) Approval of March 13, 2007, Minutes: Motion by Brian Flynn, seconded by Curt Stepanek, all present voting aye, to approve minutes of the March 13, 2007, meeting.
- 4) Personal Appearances by Citizens. None.
- 5) Planning:
 - a. New Artifact/Gift Shop Building In Irvine Park. No new information.
 - b. Animal Pets in City Public Parks. Department has been getting calls regarding pet messes and dogs not being on their leashes. This is becoming a problem. The Board is concerned that if the situation does not improve, a no pets in the park rule will need to be implemented.

Audrey Stowell arrives at this time.

- c. Casper Park Open Shelter at Leinenkugel Softball Complex. Bill Faherty presented the quotes he had obtained thus far for the shelter. The quotes do not include installation or the cement pad. The shelter is needed to provide shade for players and spectators between games. For large tournaments, we are currently renting a large tent. There are some funds available for this project, but more funds are needed. Bill will be sending a letter to businesses asking for donations to complete the project. Bob Hoekstra requested an itemization of expenses for the entire shelter project be provided at the next meeting.

Bob Hoekstra left at this time.

- 6) Decisions:
 - a. Approve new Traffic & Parking Plan for Lower Zoo Area. (ABC signs to Bear Den). Bill Faherty proposed blocking off vehicular traffic from the area in front of the zoo on a temporary basis in order to get feedback before putting up any fencing. After discussion, Brian Flynn made a motion to approve the new traffic and parking plan for the lower zoo area on a temporary and trial basis from Memorial Day weekend until Labor Day of this year. Curt Stepanek voted no to oppose the motion; all other members present voted aye to approve the motion.
 - b. Approve moving the "Little Dinky" train to front of Irvine Park at Jefferson entrance. After discussion, motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Brian Flynn, all present voting aye, to authorize the moving of Little Dinky to the Irvine Park Jefferson entrance at the convenience of the staff.
 - c. Approve moving "Large Log" & "Bell" to School House area. After discussion, motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Brian Flynn, all present voting aye, to approve moving of the large log and the bell to the schoolhouse area as convenient for the staff.

- d. Approve heating plan for Bobcat/Cougar exhibit. Bill Faherty presented bid by Maurer Strand. The funds for this will be taken from zoo donations. After discussion, motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Brian Flynn, all present voting aye, to approve heating plan of Maurer Strand for \$9,100.
- 7) Information:
- a. Committee Reports:
 - 1. Friends of Irvine Park Zoo. No report. Curt Stepanek notes that there is a meeting next Monday and asks Lisa Bjork to attend.
 - 2. Irvine Park Annual Celebration July 6, 7, & 8 Weekend. No report. Bill Faherty and Dale Berg need to get in touch with Tony Kovach.
 - b. Staff Reports
 - 1. Recreation Programming Report. Youth soccer will be starting. There are 540 youth participating. Softball leagues will be starting in May. Work is being done on the summer brochure.
 - 2. Irvine Park Zoo Updates. New Adult female bobcat. The buffalo, elk, and whitetail deer herds have been thinned.
 - 3. Park Projects. Chuck Cyr reports that they have been working on the pool. He has repaired the roof of the pool house. The cougar building is almost completed. The staff will be working on getting the duck pond pump working and getting the bathrooms, shelters, and kitchen open. Numerous groups will be coming this spring to help with various items for which they are very thankful.
 - 4. Personnel Updates. Hiring of seasonal people and lifeguards are in process.
 - 5. On-Line Registration Program. Lots of work being done to get this up and going. The registration program is scheduled to go live on April 28, 2007. Mail-in and on-line registration will take place at the same time with walk-in registration to take place later as usual.
 - c. Donations.
 - 1. Bill Faherty handed out a summary of donation funds.
 - d. Board Member comments or concerns.
 - 1. The May meeting will be held at the activities building.
 - 2. Audrey briefly discussed the idea of a sledding hill. She and Bill will be getting additional information and reviewing locations during the summer.
- 6) Approve Claims. Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Brian Flynn, all present voting aye, to approve claims of \$18,184.90.
- 7) Adjournment. Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Dale Berg, all present voting aye, to adjourn.

Submitted by:

Dick Hebert & Audrey Stowell, Secretary