

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, February 14, 2007
6:00 p.m.

- 1) Call to order by President Curt Stepanek.
- 2) Roll Call: Members Present: Curt Stepanek, Lisa Bjork, Audrey Stowell, Tony Kovach, Dale Berg, Brian Flynn, and Bob Hoekstra.
Staff present: Bill Faherty, Dick Hebert, and Terry Johnson.
- 3) Approval of January 9, 2007, Minutes: Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Brian Flynn, all present voting aye, to approve minutes of the January 9, 2007, meeting.
- 4) Personal Appearances by Citizens. None.
- 5) Planning:

- a. New Playground Equipment for Lower Irvine Park: Bill Faherty presented three options provided by the Burke Company for replacement of the playground equipment in the lower part of Irvine Park. The current equipment is 15 years old, is used by a lot of kids, and is in need of repair. The options were as follows:

	<u>Phase 1</u>	<u>Phase 2</u>	<u>Total</u>
First Option (Biggest)	\$19,842.00	\$7,000.00	\$26,842.00
Second Option (primary colors)	16,066.00	5,900.00	21,966.00
Third Option	13,798.00	6,300.00	20,098.00

Installation is not included in this price, but Bill thought the staff would be able to install. There would also be costs involved with the ground cover and landscaping.

- b. New Artifact/Gift Shop Building In Irvine Park. The old museum has been taken down. Little Dinky will be moved to a better more permanent location. One of the areas being discussed is at the Jefferson Street entrance. All suggestions are welcome.
 - c. Soda Pop Contract 2007. Nothing new to report. We will continue to receive 31% from the pop machines in the park. At present, we are not under contract with either Pepsi or Coke.
 - d. Traffic & Parking Plan for Lower Zoo Area. Bill Faherty distributed a preliminary map showing the removal of the road and new fencing. An 8' secondary fence is necessary around the animals. Bill indicated he is looking at black fence, which would be less notice, and will be getting price information.
- 6) Decisions:
 - a. Approve/Disapprove Bids for the Outdoor Pool Renovation Project. The bids were opened today. Pool Construction was the only bidder. The price has gone up since last fall to \$128,810. In the budget, \$100,000 has been earmarked for this purpose. Bill estimates the total project to cost \$136,300. After discussion, Dale Berg made a motion, seconded by Brian Flynn, all present voting aye, to approve the bid of Pool Construction contingent upon the City Council provided the rest of the funding.

- b. Accept the Harvey B. Norsten bequest in Last Will to Irvine Park of \$28,225.15. Motion by Bob Hoekstra, seconded by Tony Kovach, all present voting aye, to accept the bequest of \$28,225.15 as specified in the Last Will of Harvey B. Norsten to be used specifically for Irvine Park and for no other purpose.
- c. Accept Wal-Mart Donation of \$1,000 for Irvine Park. Motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Curt Stepanek, all present voting aye, to accept \$1,000 donation from Wal-Mart.
- d. Bobcat & Cougar Zoo Exhibit Phase III. Bill Faherty reports that the inside cages can be done by staff for \$17,600. This will save approximately \$9,000. Hopefully, these can be painted and installed this winter. Also, staff will do the building insulation. The cost of these materials is \$2,000. Bill reports that Market & Johnson has been great throughout this project. Next, the outside walls and windows will need to be done. The cost of the walls and windows is \$74,000 and \$31,800, respectively. These are last year's figures, and will be reviewed and finalized this coming week. To complete the feline house, the netting, Themescapes, electrical, plumbing, and HVAC still need to be done. The staff will be doing as much of the work as possible. After discussion, Dale Berg made a motion, seconded by Curt Stepanek, all present voting aye, to take \$17,600 from Irvine Park Zoo donations to be used for the indoor cages.

7) Information:

a. Committee Reports:

- 1. Friends of Irvine Park Zoo. Curt Stepanek reports there will be a meeting next week, which he plans to attend.
- 2. Irvine Park Annual Celebration June 28, 29 & July 1 Weekend. Tony Kovach presented various items that the committee would like to see at the celebration. They have contacted the Arts and Crafts people who do Festival in the Pines and Liberty Days in Chetek. They are not available the weekend we have planned; however, they may be able to be at our celebration if we hold it the weekend after the 4th. After discussion, motion by Tony Kovach, seconded by Audrey Stowell, all present voting aye, to move the celebration to the weekend after July 4th.
- 3. Christmas Village Report. This year will be the 20th anniversary, and we would like to promote this as much as possible. A large entrance decoration has been ordered. The switch to LED lights will be started. Donations from the boxes were down this year.

b. Staff Reports

- 1. Recreation Programming Report. Dick Hebert reports that sign-ups for spring activities are taking place. He is also discussing scheduling of the Casper Park fields with the high school groups. It appears we will be hosting a sectional softball game and probably some regionals as well.
- 2. Irvine Park Zoo Updates. We will be thinning the buffalo herd.
- 3. Park Projects. Staff is working on various maintenance projects.
- 4. Bradford Family Trust to Irvine Park. Bob Hoekstra distributed for our information a payout projection obtained from the Community Foundation showing growth for investment of \$100,000 for the next 100 years. Discussion held regarding park projects and investing versus spending. While there was not agreement on the dollar

amount, there was consensus that some of the Bradford money should be transferred to the Endowment Fund. Motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Bob Hoekstra, to transfer \$125,000 of the Bradford Family Trust funds into our endowment fund with the Community Foundation of Chippewa County. Roll call vote was taken: Brian Flynn – no, Dale Berg – yes, Bob Hoekstra – aye, Tony Kovach – no, Lisa Bjork – aye, Audrey Stowell – aye, Curt Stepanek – aye. Motion carried.

Audrey Stowell left at this time. Lisa Bjork took minutes.

c. Donations. Bill Faherty presented and distributed Expenditures and Revenue reports.

d. Board Member comments or concerns. Bill Faherty presented information regarding Joe and Nilah Bradford. He has e-mail information if anyone is interested.

Audrey Stowell returned at this time.

- 6) Approve Claims. Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Brian Flynn, all present voting aye, to approve claims of \$38,032.00.
- 7) Adjournment. Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Bob Hoekstra, all present voting aye, to adjourn.

Submitted by:

Audrey Stowell, Secretary
and Lisa Bjork