

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, November 13, 2007
6:00 p.m.

- 1) Call to order by President Curt Stepanek at 6:04 p.m.
- 2) Roll Call: Members Present: Curt Stepanek, Lisa Bjork, Audrey Stowell, Dale Berg, and Bob Hoekstra. Absent: Tony Kovach and Brian Flynn.
Staff present: Bill Faherty and Dick Hebert.
- 3) Approval of October 9, 2007, Minutes: Motion by Bob Hoekstra, seconded by Dale Berg, all present voting aye, to approve minutes of the October 9, 2007, meeting.
- 4) Personal Appearances: None.
- 5) Planning:
 - a. New Artifact/Gift Shop Building In Irvine Park. Nothing new. Staff is still working on moving the train. There is \$24,775.00 in donated monies for this project.
 - b. Irvine Park Celebration. The subcommittee met prior to our regular meeting. The dates will be Friday and Saturday, June 27th and 28th. Cost effectiveness of various events and sponsorships were discussed. Tasks have been discussed and assigned. Curt Stepanek reminded Bill of the couple who would like to do caricatures. The subcommittee will meet again prior to the December meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- 6) Decisions:
 - a. Approve/Discuss next Phase on Cougar Exhibit. The cost to finish this project is \$90,000. This includes netting. Bill has been in discussions with Themescares and had hopes to get them going. This was put on hold as there is some confusion as to the carryover amounts of the zoo donation funds. This is being clarified.
- 7) Information:
 - a. Committee Reports:
 1. Friends of Irvine Park Zoo. There is no report from their meeting. However, they have informed Bill that they have \$60,000 for the zoo.
 2. Staff Reports
 1. Recreation Programming Report. Dick Hebert passed out the new brochure. Because the printing costs had been cut from our budget, the Chippewa Herald did a great job of obtaining advertising and putting the brochure together. There were also some new features added including new phone numbers and acknowledgement of staff and volunteers. It looks good. Bill indicated that the website is also being worked on.

Bill passed out the Community Foundation endowment fund information. There is currently \$169,000 in the fund. There were contributions of \$135,000. This includes the \$125,000 from the Bradford Estate and distributions reinvested from this fund and the original Irvine Trust fund as well as other contributions.

Bob Hoekstra left at this time.

2. Irvine Park Zoo Updates. Another group of bricks have been placed. A couple of deer have been lost.
3. Park Projects. Christmas Village has been set up. This past Saturday, more than 100 volunteers showed up. One groups was from Bemidji and locally, there were groups from Athena, Apollo, and Holy Ghost. They did a great job. The pool is also done. There was quite a bit of water loss. Bill says the company did a nice job and it looks good. The shelters are not up yet.
4. Personnel Updates. The Mayor did not approve the Park Supervisor's position in the budget again this year. The union has approved a working foreman position.
5. Irvine Park Annual Calendar. A decision was made to publish an annual calendar, which is now available for purchase at various places in the community. Irvine Park animals are in the photos. Deb West, Jennifer London, and Dale Zwiefelhofer took the photos. Rooney Printing did a great job, and the calendar is nice. The printing cost was \$3,000. 1,500 calendars were printed, and the purchase price is \$10.00. The plan is for this to be an annual calendar with a different photo topic each year.
6. Donations. The donation accounts was discussed earlier.
7. Budget. Bill discussed various budget items that were included in the Mayor's budget. He states that he has put priority on the skateboard park and the Casper Park shelter. The Men's State Softball Tournament will be held at Casper Park on July 11-13. Also, we may also be able to host the national tournament in 2009.

c. Board Member comments or concerns.

- 8) Approve Claims. Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Dale Berg, all present voting aye, to approve claims of \$96,329.97.
- 9) Adjournment. Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Lisa Bjork, all present voting aye, to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by:

Audrey Stowell, Secretary