

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

6:00 p.m.

- 1) Call to order by President Curt Stepanek at 6:00 p.m.
- 2) Roll Call: Members Present: Curt Stepanek, Lisa Bjork, Audrey Stowell, Dale Berg, and Brian Flynn. Absent: Tony Kovach and Bob Hoekstra.  
Staff present: Dick Hebert.
- 3) Approval of September 11, 2007, Minutes: Motion by Brian Flynn, seconded by Curt Stepanek, all present voting aye, to approve minutes of the September 11, 2007, meeting.
- 4) Personal Appearances by Citizens. Laura Franta appeared on behalf of the Chippewa Valley Master Gardeners Association with Laurie and presented a plan for landscaping at Marshall Park in the area between the Rose Garden and the pool. This would be an opportunity for them to educate the public regarding its own home landscaping. They intend to have various gardens, a gazebo, and walkways. All future weeding, upkeep, etc. would be done by the group. They are planning to also involve the community in this project. Funding would be by the group as well as through donations of plants and bricks by public.  
Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Brian Flynn, all present voting aye, to endorse the concept as presented by Chippewa Valley Master Gardeners Association for gardens and landscaping in Marshall Park in the area between the Rose Garden and pool.
- 5) Planning:
  - a. New Artifact/Gift Shop Building In Irvine Park. Nothing to discuss.  
Bob Hoekstra arrives at this time.
  - b. Irvine Park Celebration. Brief discussion regarding whether to continue with the celebration. Motion by Bob Hoekstra, seconded by Brian Flynn, all present voting aye, to form a subcommittee to deal with issues of celebration. This subcommittee will meet prior to the regular park board meeting. Brian Flynn, Audrey Stowell, Dale Berg, and Lisa Bjork offered to be on the subcommittee.
- 6) Decisions:
  - a. Approve/Discuss next Phase on Cougar Exhibit. Dick Hebert indicates that the next phase is the rock work on the walls and flooring, which will be done by Themescapes. Estimated costs are not yet available. Nothing further to be discussed.
  - b. Approve New Skateboard Park Plan at Marshall Park. Lee Recreation provided a Quotation, which was distributed to members. The Quotation is for a total of \$54,651.80 and includes a discount of \$12,927.20. The quote is good through 12-15-07. The proposed equipment is wood with a steel frame. Bill Faherty has obtained input from the kids that use the skate park with regard to the equipment they would like to see purchased. There was discussion regarding the life expectancy of the equipment. Northwestern Bank has donated \$27,000 toward the skate park. Funds for this project were requested in the budget. Motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Curt Stepanek, all present voting aye, to approve plan as proposed by Lee Recreation for the skate park equipment with hopes that funding will be provided by either the city or community.

- 7) Information:
- a. Committee Reports:
    - 1. Friends of Irvine Park Zoo. No report.
  - b. Staff Reports
    - 1. Budget. The Mayor has the budget, and it is scheduled to be presented to the Council next week.
    - 2. Christmas Village. It is the 20<sup>th</sup> year of Christmas Village. The lights will be on starting Thanksgiving night. The Grand Opening will be Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. They will be inviting past volunteers to attend. A new display with a logging theme will be placed behind the duck pond. Lights will be put up for the next three Saturdays. Displays will be put up later.
    - 3. Park Projects. DiamondBrite project at the pool is nearly complete. There has been some discussion about having practice soccer fields at Casper Park utilizing land of the public utilities. This is in anticipation of having reduced use of the fairgrounds.  
Bob Hoekstra leaves at this time.
    - 4. Irvine Park Zoo Updates. None.
    - 5. Personnel Updates. None.
    - 6. Recreation Programming Report. Fall/Winter brochure will be distributed at the end of the month. Soccer will be complete on Saturday. Volleyball and basketball leagues will be starting the week of October 22. Open gym & swim will start on October 28.
  - c. Donations. Donation by Northwestern Bank previously discussed.
  - d. Board Member comments or concerns. Dick Hebert gave a heads up that there may be a need to have a special meeting to discuss the budget.  
The letter thanking the sponsors for the anniversary celebration has gone out.
- 8) Approve Claims. Motion by Brian Flynn, seconded by Curt Stepanek, all present voting aye, to approve claims of \$78,646.95.
- 9) Adjournment. Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Dale Berg, all present voting aye, to adjourn at 7:01 p.m.

Submitted by:

Audrey Stowell, Secretary