

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, March 11, 2008  
6:00 p.m.

- 1) Call to order by President Curt Stepanek.
- 2) Roll Call: Members Present: Curt Stepanek, Audrey Stowell, Dale Berg, Bob Hoekstra, and Lisa Bjork. Absent: Brian Flynn and Tony Kovach.  
Staff present: Dick Hebert and Bill Faherty.
- 3) Approval of February 12, 2008, Minutes: Motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Lisa Bjork, all present voting aye, to approve minutes of the February 12, 2008, meeting.
- 4) Personal Appearances: Steve Armstrong of 818 Summit Ave, Chippewa Falls, appeared. He is an avid skier and uses the ski trail at Irvine Park. His purpose is to ask the Board to somehow find a way to make sure that the ski trail is groomed next year. This was an excellent year for snow, and the trails are heavily used. Unfortunately, our snowmobile broke down, and the trails were not groomed this year. Mr. Armstrong indicated that the trails are not as enjoyable or as safe when they are not groomed. He hoped we would be able to come up with a way to keep the trails groomed next winter.
- 5) Planning:
  - a. New Artifact/Gift Shop Building In Irvine Park. No discussion.
  - b. Irvine Park Celebration. Things for the celebration are not coming together well. The person in charge of the arts & crafts has not gotten back to Bill Faherty, so it is unlikely they are available. Bob Hoekstra made a motion to not have the celebration this year. Discussion regarding having the fireworks & the race. Bob Hoekstra withdrew his motion. Dick Hebert & Bill Faherty will try to coordinate having just the fireworks and the race.
  - c. Moving Administrative offices. Bill Faherty reports that they will be looking at what needs to be done to accomplish this.
  - d. Outdoor Recreation Plan 2008-2012. Bill Faherty reports that this is a work in progress. He requests that the members return their surveys if they have not done so already.
- 6) Decisions:
  - a. Approve/Discuss next Phase on Cougar Exhibit. The cougar exhibit will be done this spring. The next phase of the bobcat part will be presented next month.
  - b. Approve/Discuss Marshall Park Skateboard Purchases. Bill Faherty presented the four bids that he has received for the Marshall Skateboard Park. The other half of the funding was included in the bonding, giving us \$55,000 for this project. American Ramp Company had the low bid that met specifications of \$56,226.89. Installation was an additional \$5,685.22. Bill Faherty indicates that they will also work with us to get us within the \$55,000 and will also see if any of our current pieces will be able to be used in the new design. **After discussion, motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Bob Hoekstra, all present voting aye, to authorize Bill Faherty to work with American Ramp Company to come up with a final design for the Marshall Skateboard Park within the \$55,000.**

- c. Approve Reservation Fee for Bear Den Shelter & Flag Hill Shelter. The new shelters that are being completed on Bear Den Road and at Flag Hill are the same size as the shelter at the Happy Hollow. We currently charge \$50.00 for that shelter. **After discussion, motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Dale Berg, all present voting aye, to approve a \$50.00 reservation fee for the new shelters on Bear Den Road and Flag Hill.**
  - d. Approve / Discuss Strikers Soccer Program Having Concessions at Casper Park. The Strikers group has approached Parks & Rec and asked for permission to sell concessions during the league soccer games. The league season is six weeks long. They intend to put up a tent. **Motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Audrey Stowell, all present voting aye, to allow Strikers to have concessions at the 2008 soccer league games.**
- 7) Information:
- a. Committee Reports:
    - 1. Friends of Irvine Park Zoo. No report.
  - b. Staff Reports
    - 1. Recreation Programming Report. No report.
    - 2. Irvine Park Zoo Updates. Testing on the deer and elk herd will begin again soon.
    - 3. Park Projects. Park staff has or is in the process of finishing shelters, painting bathrooms and the main floor at the activity building, and maintaining equipment. They also plan to move the train this next week.
    - 4. Personnel Updates. Bill Faherty reported that three members of the staff have applied for the Park Maintenance Working Foreperson position. He has interviewed the three, and he is recommending Chuck Cyr for the position to the Personnel Committee. Also, contracts have been sent to last year's summer staff. Any positions that remain open will be filled through Job Service. Seasonal staff hired for the parks include 2 zookeepers, 3 workers for Casper Park, and 2.5 staff at Irvine Park. Additional seasonal staff is hired for the rec programs.
  - c. Donations. Bill Faherty indicates that we are receiving our usual individual donations. He will have a report next month.
  - d. Board Member comments or concerns. Curt Stepanek asked whether the donation accounts issue has been resolved. Bill Faherty indicates that issue will be resolved when the books are closed. Dick Hebert indicates that there is \$5,500 available for flagpoles to be placed behind the cannons. Bob Hoekstra indicates that technically Brian Flynn does not need to resign from the Park Board. We will need to clarify whether or not he desires to remain on the Board. Dale Berg indicates that he has heard that Tony Kovach has resigned from the Board. Bill Faherty will look into that and find out.
- 8) Approve Claims. Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Dale Berg, all present voting aye, to approve claims of \$44,447.17.
- 9) Adjournment. Motion by Bob Hoekstra, seconded by Lisa Bjork, all present voting aye, to adjourn.

Submitted by:  
Audrey Stowell, Secretary