

**KASSON PARK BOARD NOTES
JUNE 15, 2010**

Due to lack of a quorum, the Kasson Park Board meeting at the Kasson Public Works Building on the 15th day of June 2010 was cancelled. The members that were present had a brief discussion of the items that were on the agenda.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Joe Fitch, Mike Marti, Mary Ann Billeter

THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT: Sharon Schriever, Liza Larsen, Becky Diekman and Greg Kuball

ALSO PRESENT: Park & Rec Supervisor Ron Unger and Secretary Jan Naig

Points of discussion:

New Business

A. Addition of ice arena special liaison to Park Board. Mayor Tjosaas has appointed Terry Meyers as ice arena special liaison to the Park Board. Meyers will have a non-voting position on the Board. He was formerly on an advisory board for the Four Seasons Arena and the Mayor would like to have his representation as the City moves forward with operation of Dodge County Ice Arena.

In July the ice arena fee schedules will be submitted to the Park Board before they are sent to the Council for approval. Board Members asked if there would be revenue/expenditure reports available to help with this process.

B. Hire additional swimming pool employees. There are two additional names to add to the roster of swimming pool hires. Ashley Bergren, WSI, will work as a substitute lifeguard. Peter Schwartz has also applied to work at the pool-subject to successful completion of the lifeguard training course. Unger will also find out if Jesse Johnson plans to submit an application once he has completed the lifeguard training course.

C. Seasonal Park Department employee update. Mike Boruff has retired as a seasonal park department employee. The city has hired Jason Van Every and Orlando Perez to do lawn mowing in the parks on a seasonal part-time basis.

D. Tree stump removal. Unger reported that there are 23-25 stumps to grind out from trees that the City has taken down. There have been a few complaints about the dirt that is piled where the stumps have been removed. Unger will handle these situations on a case by case basis.

E. Bike park – property damage. Unger has been dealing with incidents at the BMX park on a regular basis. Recently obscenities were cut into the sod and ketchup was smeared on the signage. Foul language has also been an issue. Unger feels it is time to eliminate the BMX park. Marti will make sure that the City Council has no objections to discontinuing this BMX park.

There was some discussion about the need to install a surveillance camera for the skatepark that is to be built near the ice arena.

F. EAB update – City tree ordinances. Unger, Mike Ness and Jeff Ulve attended the EAB workshop in Rochester on June 3rd. The topic was “Community Preparedness”. It addressed how cities should prepare before the problem arises, how to handle the problem once it is here, replanting programs and how the city will handle tree disposal. Unger will get samples of other cities’ EAB preparedness programs to help set up Kasson’s program. Unger stressed that the Board will need to review and update the Tree Ordinance in the City Code.

Unger reported that Rochester is already starting to take out diseased ash trees. They are also using community volunteers to do tree inventory and tree assessment work.

G. Segway business operation. Ken Smith of Ultimate Segway in Rochester has obtained City Council approval to operate a segway rental from Veterans Memorial Park.

Old Business

A. K-M Lions girls’ softball tournament. There were 18 teams playing in the Summer Blast this year on June 11th & 12th. All three city fields were used for this tournament and the pool was rented on Friday evening.

B. Concession stands operations. Unger has asked Dean Nelson to prepare a report of last year’s concession stands operation for the Board. KMSA will be running the stands in Veterans Memorial Park and West Park this year.

C. Playground modular-Lions Park. Unger hopes to begin work on the final phase of the Lions Park modular next week.

D. Concerts in the Park. Naig is still trying to find some groups that would be available to play concerts in Veterans Memorial Park this summer.

E. Dodge County SHIP program at the pool. Kasson Pool had the first SHIP day assigned by Dodge County on Monday, June 7th. Our estimate for reimbursement will not cover the daily admissions that were lost on that date. The records show there were 247 people that participated. Unger will contact Sherry Sonnenberg to see if we can revise our request for reimbursement. If a similar program is done in the future, we should request not to schedule any days during the first week that the pool is open.

F. Park projects update.

- The Lions Club members stained and painted the benches in West Park.
- The safety tile for the No. 1 and No. 2 ball field fences is ordered.
- Unger would like to work on the deck for seating along the 3rd baseline in West Park this fall.

- The T-ball programs are using the soccer fields in the northwest park because of the shortage of ball fields.
- The Lions Club members may stain the Veterans Park dugouts before the Festival in the Park tournament. Unger also noted that the top blocks of the dugouts need tuck-pointing.
- Thatcher Pools has completed replastering the baby pool. Unger will get estimates of the cost to do the main pool at the end of this season.

Discussion closed at 7:20 P.M.

Jan Naig, Secretary