

## **KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES MARCH 25, 2014**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Kasson Park Board was duly held at the Kasson Public Works Building on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of March 2014 at 6:00 P.M.

**THE FOLLOWING PARK BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:** Roger Franke, Chuck Coleman, Liza Larsen, Greg Kuball and Jason Moritz (arrived at 6:07 P.M.)

**THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT:** Terry Meyers

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jerry Struthers, Sandy Musolf, Jason Halvorson, Judy Ruport, Parks and Recreation Supervisor Ron Unger and Deputy Clerk Jan Naig

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:03 P.M. by Kuball.

**II. Approve minutes:** Motion by Larsen and second by Franke, with all voting Aye, to approve the February 2014 Park Board Minutes.

**III. New Business:**

**A. Discuss 2014 water aerobics program.** Unger has not been in contact with Kris Thomas of Xtreme Fitness. In 2013 the City received \$963.00 from Xtreme Fitness for use of the facility. They were paid \$2,925.00 for providing the instructors for the programs. The Board will look at the programs again since the fitness programs ran a \$1,962.00 deficit. The number of programs offered, fees for instructors and number of required participants may need to be adjusted to make this a more profitable venture.

**B. Aquatic Center registrations.** Unger is working on the registration forms for 2014. They should be available around April 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration deadlines are May 10<sup>th</sup> for Season Passes (May 11<sup>th</sup> the rates increase) and May 23<sup>rd</sup> for lessons. Unger is working on the Tiny Tots lesson schedule.

Alaina Pappas and Josh Mitchell will both take the Food Handlers Course prior to the opening of the Aquatic Center. Tentative opening date for the Aquatic Center is May 24<sup>th</sup>.

**C. Arbor Day discussion.** The national Arbor Day observance is April 25<sup>th</sup>. Due to weather conditions Kasson will have their observance in May. On Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. a tree will be planted in Veterans Memorial Park as part of the observance.

**D. Applicants for Park Board volunteer.** Janet Heinl and Janet Sinning have turned in applications for the open Park Board seat. All applications will be given to Mayor Nelson for his consideration and appointment.

**IV. Old Business:**

**A. Adult softball league.** Unger had his first meeting with the team managers on March 11<sup>th</sup>. There were 13 men's teams and 4 co-rec teams registered. April 1<sup>st</sup> is the League Directors' meeting in Mankato. On April 8<sup>th</sup> the local team managers will meet to pay their fees and pick up materials. League play will begin on May 1<sup>st</sup> and May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Unger reported that this is the last year that Dean Nelson plans to organize the Festival in the Park and Marigold Days tournaments.

**B. Veterans Park concessions stand employees.** Unger has two people who are interested in the Veterans Park concessions stand summer positions. They both have experience working at the ice arena concessions stand. A third applicant will be interviewed for the position. All three will be hired in April along with the other seasonal employees.

**C. Boulevard tree program update.** Unger has received around 15 order forms for boulevard trees. He anticipates ordering 30 to 40 trees this year. The planting will be done in late April or early May.

**D. Movies in the Park sponsorships.** A few businesses/organizations have expressed interest in sponsoring a movie night. The Board discussed ways to contact other business owners so they know about the opportunity to sponsor a movie night. Kuball will send an email to the Kasson Chamber membership.

**E. Lions Park update – new location.** City Administrator Lenth, Public Works Director Fjerstad and Unger met in February to discuss plans for the new park land. They worked with an aerial map of the park and scale markers for the amenities to make a plan for the new park. Unger had the map available for the Board to review. The park will be developed in stages based on funds that are available. The most immediate needs are the roadway to enter the park, the skateboard park, the modular relocation and a parking area.

Unger has spoken to Bill Livingston at Clearwater Recreation about moving the modular. At this time Unger plans to put the modular for 2-5 year olds in the park in northeast Kasson. All other structures from the existing Lions Park modular will move to the new Lions park.

The Board talked about the need to plan for the development of other parks including the northwest and two northeast parks. They discussed developing smaller neighborhood parks and larger destination parks. The Board would like similar aerial maps for the other undeveloped parks to begin long range plans for all city parks. A list of items/amenities and costs could be prepared that can be submitted with the yearly budget proposals.

**Other.**

**Picnic Tables.** Moritz asked what could be done with the picnic tables (other than chaining them down) at Veterans Memorial Park to prevent them from being moved to the playground areas. Unger was instructed to get signage that warns against moving picnic tables within 50 feet of the playground equipment. This might prompt police officers or other adults using the park to talk to the youth about the dangers of placing tables near the playground equipment.

**Dodge County Ice Arena.** Coleman reported no decisions have been made on the operation of the Ice Arena. In the discussions that have taken place Dodge County has indicated they want to get out of the hockey arena. Both parties are still in negotiations and no decisions have been made. Coleman will keep the Board updated on the City-County meetings.

-Board Members have been questioned about who pays the \$3,000.00 deficit that has been reported for the 2013 arena operation.

-There was a question regarding payments for arena programs that are made out to individuals rather than to the Arena. Are the individuals who are running the camps and programs making payment to the Arena for their ice time?

-A few Board Members have been approached about cleanliness issues at the arena again. Unger will check into these concerns.

**Naming rights for parks.** Kuball asked if the Park Board/City would consider charging for naming rights as a way to raise money for our parks. There are two parks in northeast, one in northwest and West Park that could all be given another name.

**Web site.** Unger reported that he has worked with Krista Weigel on the new web site. The City is updating their web site and will continue to work for improvements that will also enhance the Park Department link. The hardware is not all in place to make the updates to the City's web site.

**Library planning.** Coleman reported that the City Council has set up funding for a new library. The Library Building Committee is still looking at land on the east side of West Park for the facility. They will be working with the architect to develop a "concept plan" that will determine how the 15,000 square foot structure will fit into the existing park. There may be a need to move the existing 5 to 8 year modular. There was some discussion of possibly moving the existing modular to one of the other parks when the library is under construction. A new modular could then be constructed in West Park when the new library construction is complete. Any action to make this change will be taken once the plan for the library is finalized.

**V. Correspondence:** None

**VI. Adjourn:** Motion by Moritz and second by Larsen, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 P.M.

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Chairperson

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Deputy Clerk

The next meeting will be on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.