

KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES AUGUST 19, 2014

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Kasson Park Board was duly held at Kasson City Hall on the 19th day of August 2014 at 6:00 P.M.

THE FOLLOWING PARK BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Jason Moritz, Janet Sinning, Chuck Coleman, Roger Franke, Greg Kuball and Terry Meyers

THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT: Liza Larsen and Parks & Recreation Supervisor Ron Unger

ALSO PRESENT: Jerry Struthers, Judy Ruport, Sandy Musolf, Ronald Eidem, Barb Meyer, Rev. Clint Patterson, Mayor Matt Nelson, Kris Anderson, Library Director Art Tiff, Finance Director Nancy Zaworski, Deputy Clerk Jan Naig, City Administrator Randy Lenth and Jason Farnsworth

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Kuball.

II. Approve minutes: Motion by Franke and second by Meyers, with all voting Aye, to approve the minutes of the July 2014 Kasson Park Board Meeting.

III. New Business:

A. Library Building Committee/West Park update. Library Director Tiff gave the Board a brief update on the new library plans on behalf of the Library Building Committee. The advertising for Request for Qualifications for Construction Manager for the Kasson Public Library is published. Qualifications must be received by August 25th. Tiff wanted to share his understanding of the project as it relates to West Park.

On June 9th Unger and Tiff met with the architect, Leland Gray, to do a site visit and to discuss the layout of the Park. They discussed the possibility of adding pickle ball courts and a basketball court if the ballfield is removed. The construction of the courts may be less expensive if they can be done with the other construction. Estimated costs excluding site work are:
Basketball Court (50' x 94') - concrete is \$28,200 and asphalt is \$37,600
Pickle Ball Court (20' x 44') - concrete is \$5,280 and asphalt is \$7,040
The estimates include the labor.

The old concession stand/storage shed and outfield fence were going to be removed and used in another location.

The warming house and trees will be removed.

Leaving the ball field will not disrupt any drainage /site work. Any future use of the ball diamond or its site will be decided by the Park Board and Parks and Recreation Supervisor.

Construction equipment for the library might be staged in the park (restoration upon completion).

Since Lions Park will be a recreational park, a suggestion was made to consider developing a quieter, passive park near the library. There was discussion about leaving the dirt infield for a sandlot baseball field until firm plans are made for West Park. In Unger's absence, the Board tabled the discussion for another meeting. Lenth reported the scoreboard and lights have been removed, the topper for the chain link fence has been removed and will be installed in the northeast park, the modular move will be scheduled with Bill Livingston of Clearwater Recreation.

The Board discussed the possibility of changing the name from West Park. No policy has been set to address the naming of the parks in the City.

B. 2015 Budget. Unger had already put numbers together for the 2015 Budget. If anyone has other items for budget consideration, they were encouraged to submit them. The top priority will be to work on the expansion of Lions Park followed by developing the smaller neighborhood parks.

Kuball again stressed the need for a forestry division to manage the tree maintenance issues. Lenth explained the Parks and Recreation and Forestry funds all come from the General Fund and that there is a separate line for forestry within the budget.

C. Litter cleanup campaign. Sinning presented the ideas she and Coleman have discussed for an organized campaign to do a spring cleanup of the City. She suggested a slogan of "Just Pick It Up-Keep Kasson Clean". It was suggested that the City partner with a local organization or high school athletic team to get a volunteer campaign established.

Motion by Sinning and second by Moritz, with all voting Aye, to continue working on the litter cleanup campaign with details yet to be determined.

IV. Old Business:

A. Lions Park expansion update. The West Meadows Condo Association across Veterans Memorial Highway from the expansion of Lions Park has expressed their concerns about having the skateboard park so close to the road. They have concerns about safety, noise and aesthetics. They would like the entrance to the Park to have a welcoming "green space". There was discussion about moving the skateboard park about 20' back into the "future expansion area" on the plan or to go back to the basketball court area. The

Board was reminded that the plan and bids have been approved by the City Council so any changes could affect the cost.

Motion by Franke and second by Moritz to move the skateboard park back to the area that was designated for future skateboard park expansion to leave a green space area at the entrance to Lions Park. Ayes: Franke, Moritz, Coleman, Meyers and Sinning. Opposed: Kuball.

Musolf asked why a bike path is planned for this area. She is concerned about the expense for development of a small section of trail. She was reminded that bids have already been approved to install the trail. The Board explained that there is a long range plan for trails to connect throughout the City and trails are being developed as the land and funds are available.

Musolf also asked about the speed limit on Veterans Memorial Highway. That is a County Road and the speed limit is determined by the County.

B. Ice Arena update. Meyers reported that things went well at the Arena during the week of the Dodge County Fair. The entities that are running the summer camps have been contacted. They do not feel they would lose business if a floor is rented to cover the ice for one week.

-The last of the original compressors finally went down.

-The facility is running smoothly and it will be “beyond full” this fall. The County/City has the right person marketing the facility. How to build a second sheet of ice may become a future consideration.

-The next Arena Committee meeting is scheduled for August 28th. There should be numbers on how the fair week came out.

C. Aquatic Center update. The Aquatic Center will close on August 29th. The last week of August will have limited hours. There was discussion about having the public restrooms on the bathhouse open during park hours once the Aquatic Center is closed.

Anderson has ordered signs for the restrooms. The lock system will need some changes to have the doors automatically lock at 11:00 P.M. This will be worked on for next summer.

The bike parking issue has improved.

Anderson reported that there has been considerable chemical cost due to several incidents of fecal matter in the pool. Each incident requires a large dose of chemical to shock the system.

D. Other.

-Movies in the Park. Three of the movies were shown on their scheduled nights. The attendance for “Free Willy” and “Field of Dreams” was around 50 people. “The Lorax” had a crowd of around 250. Next year the Board may need to look into more ways to promote the events.

-There was a question about the bicycle rack that was removed from the park and ride lot. Some of the commuters would like a bicycle rack at the lot.

-Ruport asked where the disc golf course will be placed in Lions Park. Until the bridges are set up, the new course will not be designed.

V. Correspondence: None

VI. Adjourn:

Motion by Sinning and second by Moritz, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 P.M.

Chairperson

Deputy Clerk

The next scheduled meeting will be on September 16th at 6:00 P.M.