

KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 19, 2019

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 November at 6:00 P.M.

THE FOLLOWING PARK BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Dan Egger, Janet Sinning, Jason Farnsworth and Roger Franke

THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT: Greg Kuball, Liza Larsen and Chuck Coleman

ALSO PRESENT: Parks & Rec Supervisor Ron Unger and Deputy Clerk Jan Naig

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

II. Approve minutes: Motion by Egger and second by Franke, with all voting Aye, to approve the minutes of the October 2019 meeting.

III. New Business:

- A. 2020 Fee Schedule.** In November 2018 the Board approved the following change to the 2020 Fee Schedule-Add Lions Park shelter to the reservation schedule with a \$20.00 fee for one half day and \$40.00 for the full day. The Veterans Park shelter reservation will increase to \$40.00 for one half day per section and \$80.00 for the entire day per section.

Aquatic Center fees were also discussed. The lesson and private lesson fees were increased and the facility rental fee was reduced in 2019. The Single and Family Memberships were increased in 2018. The Board was in agreement to increase only the daily fees in 2020. They stated we need to communicate this increase to the public before the pool opens.

Motion by Farnsworth and second by Sinning, with all voting Aye, to increase the daily admission fee to \$6.00 and to increase the fee for a book of 10 passes to \$55.00 and the fee for a book of 20 passes to \$110.00 beginning in 2020.

- B. Veterans Memorial Park – stone wall.** Unger presented the proposal he received from Building Restoration Corporation for tuck-pointing and stone repairs to the historic stone entry to Veterans Memorial Park. The report indicated the mortar has either failed entirely or is beginning to deteriorate at all locations. Multiple stone show severe deterioration and will require replacement. Specialized concrete caps at the top of the two towers are deteriorating and need to be replaced. Their proposal to tuck-point, replace stone and replace the concrete cap at the top of the pillars is \$229,129. Their price to demolish the structure is \$3,952. The Board feels it has become a safety hazard and could be liability hazard if it is left accessible to the public.

Sinning would like to save the structure since it is part of our history. She asked if grants are available for this type of project.

Farnsworth feels the wall puts a damper on the pool. He is concerned about kids playing on the wall. He would rather see concrete than this wall.

Franke stated the money should be spent on a new veterans memorial rather than repairing the wall.

Egglar commented that doing all of the proposed work would not be restoring the original wall. The 700 square feet of stone replacement would result in a new wall since everything will be new.

A vote was taken to recommend to the City Council that the City demolish the stone entry to Veterans Memorial Park. Those in favor: Farnsworth, Franke and Egglar. Those against: Sinning.

C. Adult basketball league - 2020. Unger has reached out to some of the teams that played in the basketball league in the past. They indicated to him that they do not have enough players to form a team. There will not be an adult basketball league in 2020.

D. 2019 Aquatic Center financials. Unger went through the financial information for the Aquatic Center that was supplied by Finance Director Zaworski. The poor weather conditions in June and August was reflected in the income. Because the facility was closed for more hours, the utilities for running the pumps on the play features dropped and this helped the expenses. The mandated minimum wage increase did have an impact on wages. The expenses will continue to increase considerably due to the major repairs that are needed with the play features, slides, pumps and heaters.

Unger indicated that if staffing costs become a problem in the future, we may need to follow other area pools and shorten open swim hours.

There was discussion about the season pass numbers being entered into the computer as each person enters the facility. The Board also talked about taking new photos for all pass holders in 2020 since many of them have not been updated in the last five years. There is a strong possibility that money is lost at admissions because there is no verification that the person entering the facility actually has a season pass.

IV. Old Business:

- A. Park signage.** The weather changed before City crews could get the two park signs and the historic water tower sign installed. This project will wait until spring.
- B. Meadowland Park picnic shelter.** Unger has the plans for the Meadowland Park picnic shelter. Due to poor fall weather conditions, the project will not be done until spring. Materials will be purchased this year to keep the cost in this year's budget. The projected cost of the shelter is approximately \$5,200.00.
- C. Christmas tree lighting – Veterans Memorial Park.** The tree has been ordered. Unger will get the lights to Larsen so it can be decorated next week. Sinning indicated the special guests will be Ryan Reed and Matt Nelson. They are responsible for starting the tradition of placing a tree in the Park. Unger thanked Sinning and Larsen for their work in putting this event together.
- D. Terms that expire in 2019: Larsen and Sinning.** Sinning indicated she is willing to stay on the Board another term. Unger will contact Larsen to find out her plans.

V. Correspondence: None.

Unger was asked if he has been getting applications for workers at the Aquatic Center. He indicated applications are starting to come in and he will do interviews over the holiday break in December. A notice was placed in the K-M High School announcements to remind students of the deadline for applying.

Unger informed the Board that the Shakopee lime has been added to the ball fields. The ball fields have been edged with a sod cutter and the new outfield fence has been installed at North 2. He will ask Joint Ventures for funds for the new backstop.

The grass that was damaged by the bug spray in Veterans Memorial Park has been aerated and over-seeded. Joint Ventures has purchased a sprayer that will be used in the parks. Our employees will be obtaining their licenses to apply the herbicides and fertilizer.

Unger indicated the Lions Park shelter dedication went well. His parks workers are building the new tables for the shelter.

In 2020 Unger is considering taking down two trees in Veterans Memorial Park and changing the edging around the modular and slides to convert the playground into one big area.

VI. Adjourn: Motion by Farnsworth and second by Sinning, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 P.M.

Acting Chairperson

Deputy Clerk

The next scheduled meeting will be December 17th.