

PARKS & RECREATION  
ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2018 5:30 pm  
City Arena  
701 Lake Chapeau Dr.

**Members Present:**

Mark Calderon  
Dan Borland  
Brian Hensley  
Vern Rasmussen, Sr.  
Anne Sternhagen  
Jennifer Vogt-Erickson  
Tristian Pectorious  
Jason Howland (Ex-officio)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff in Attendance:**

Phil Wacholz, Assistant Director of Public Works  
Joe Grossman, Superintendent of Parks  
Bob Furland, Recreation Manager  
Jennifer Nelson, Administrative Assistant

**Others in Attendance:**

Gary Hagen, 501 Albert Lea St., Albert Lea

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Vice Chair Mark Calderon.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Brian Hensley made a motion to approve the agenda and Dan Borland seconded the motion. The agenda was approved on a 5-0 voice vote. (*Vern Rasmussen, Sr. and Jennifer Vogt-Erickson were absent for the vote*)

**Approval of Minutes:**

Brian Hensley made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2017 meeting and Dan Borland seconded the motion. The minutes were approved on a 5-0 voice vote. (*Vern Rasmussen, Sr. and Jennifer Vogt-Erickson were absent for the vote*)

Introductions and welcoming statement to Tristian Pectorious.

**Public Items:** None

**Action/Discussion Items;**

**Election of officers;**

A motion was made by Brian Hensley and seconded by Dan Borland for Vern Rasmussen Sr. to serve as Chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Motion was approved on a 7-0 voice vote.

Introductions and welcoming statement to Jennifer Vogt-Erickson.

A motion was made by Mark Calderon and seconded by Anne Sternhagen for Brian Hensley to serve as Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Motion was approved on a 7-0 voice vote.

**Approval of the 2018 meeting schedule:**

A motion was made by Anne Sternhagen and seconded by Brian Hensley for approval of the 2018 meeting schedule as follows;

- January 16, 2018
- February 20, 2018
- March 20, 2018
- April 17, 2018
- May 15, 2018
- June 19, 2018
- July 17, 2018
- August 21, 2018
- September 18, 2018
- October 16, 2018
- November 20, 2018
- December 18, 2018
- January 15, 2019

The motion was approved on a 7-0 voice vote.

**Marina Pilot Project Edgewater Park Location**

The City Council is requesting recommendations or comments from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board regarding the marina pilot project at the Edgewater Park location. The marina pilot project costs Edgewater Park location sheet prepared by Phil Wacholz become part of these minutes by reference.

Wacholz advised during the City Council work session held December 26, 2017 the council wanted staff to continue working on this project and had a strong preference to have the marina in a public location. The two public locations included Edgewater Park and the City Beach. Staff favors Edgewater Park do to less preparation work and less wind in this location. This would be on the exterior of the park gates. The setback for dredging in this location is 75' and the dock could be floated if it needs to be moved. The City Council could approve the project Monday. The suggested rental rate would be \$1,500 for the season. Reminding the board this is a pilot project and there could be some unforeseen costs. Staff is recommending the dock rental would be on a first come first serve basis. If the renter wanted a lift they would be responsible for the purchase and installation. The docks would be modular and could be expanded upon in the future. Benefits to the renters is the equipment would be installed, maintained and stored by the city. This project would include two docks with two rental spaces per dock (total of four rental spaces).

Phil Wacholz advised the expectation would be for the renters to use the parking lot and walk to the dock spots.

Vern Rasmussen, Sr. advised there could be some parking issues. Vern believes people will still park along the road in front of the docks. There is not a lot of room for parking along Edgewater Drive. Cited an example of a truck/semi that is parked on Lakeview Blvd. area during the boating season.

Rasmussen believes Edgewater is the best location for the marina.

Joe Grossman and Phil Wacholz advised the exact location of the dock may help with parking issues.

A motion was made by Anne Sternhagen and seconded by Tristian Pestorious to recommend to City Council the approval of the marina pilot project at the Edgewater Park location. Motion was approved on a 7-0 voice vote.

**Old Business:**

Vern Rasmussen Sr. advised a committee has been formed to work on ideas and fundraising for Christmas decorations in Albert Lea.

**Update Items;**

**Senior Center:** Furland reported the Senior Center has a bus trip to Mystic Lake Casino this month, upcoming programs include but not limited to; "A Road to Better Health", funeral and estate planning, drivers improvement and health screenings being held February 12<sup>th</sup>. The Senior Center is a very busy place all year round.

**Parks:** Phil Wacholz advised a pet station request was made by a citizen for a specific area. This request prompted staff to map out all existing pet stations to see if there is a need for additional stations. There are currently approximately 20 pet stations city wide. The request is currently under consideration.

**Arena:** Furland advised people counters were installed and he is still making sure the numbers are accurate as some of the numbers seemed off a bit. The arena continues to be busy with several hockey games. Hockey Day will be January 27<sup>th</sup> and is a very special event as every local team plays a game including mites at Hayek Park (in-house hockey). There will be A & B Squirt tournament in town February 2-4<sup>th</sup> which will host 16 games.

**Recreation:** Women and co-ed volleyball has begun along with Fitness 1-2-3. Rock on Ice was cancelled on January 12<sup>th</sup> do to the cold temperatures and has been rescheduled for January 26<sup>th</sup>. Jenny Davis hosted a cupcakes and canvas event January 3<sup>rd</sup> in which participants painted a cupcake on canvas and decorated a cupcake to enjoy. The spring and summer brochure is being worked on and will be finalized soon. Lakeview Park hosted a 4 on 4 hockey tournament and another Rock on Ice is planned at Academy Park to coincide with the Big Freeze festivities February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Park and Rec will also have activities out to the Edgewater Bay Pavilion during the Big Freeze from 11am-2pm. A bicycle ride is being planned which is similar to the Bicycle River Ramble held in Mankato. Bicycle Minnesota would like to participate and this event will be to enjoy and promote our lakes and trails. Twelve dock rentals may be affected by the dredging project and we will continue to stay in communication with the Shellrock River Watershed District Director of Field Operations Andy Henschel.

Work Plan Items has been removed from the agenda.

**Board Member Items;****Dan Borland**

Inquired if the AL Lakers will be playing this year in Albert Lea. Mark Calderon advised the season starts May 30<sup>th</sup> and the first home game is scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup>. The baseball players will be looking for host families and the advertisements will be coming out soon with further information. 22 kids from all over the United States will be playing baseball and the Manager of the team lives in Clear Lake.

**Brian Hensely**

Hensley is President of the Lakes Foundation Board, May 5<sup>th</sup> will be their clean-up day. May 31<sup>st</sup> the Lakes Foundation and Shellrock River Watershed District will be hosting a Reel and Paddling Film Festival which will be held following Thursdays on Fountain from 7-9pm at the Marion Ross Performing Arts Center. This film festival will be held to help promote paddling on MN lakes and rivers. Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 8-11am the Lakes Foundation will be holding a retreat at intellicents to try to identify 5 and 10 year future projects. City Staff and anyone from this board is invited to attend. The Big Freeze is coming up February 3<sup>rd</sup> and there will be many activities at the Edgewater Bay Pavilion and also downtown.

**Vern Rasmussen**

Inquired on when the Blazing Star Trail will be getting needed repairs. Phil Wacholz advised this is a future project included in the City's CIP. Wacholz will check on the maintenance schedule for the trail and get back to him.

Jason Howland inquired when the next Park Board retreat is planned. Furland will check into this and get back to him.

**Adjournment:** Dan Borland made a motion for adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 6:22pm on a 7-0 voice vote. Next meeting will be held February 20, 2018 at 5:30 at the City Arena.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jennifer Nelson  
Acting Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Secretary

Approved:

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Vern Rasmussen Sr.  
Park & Recreation Advisory Board Vice Chairman