

PARKS & RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

*July 17, 2018 5:30 pm
City Hall
221 East Clark Street*

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Brian Hensley

Staff in Attendance:

Bob Furland, Recreation Manager
Jennifer Nelson, Recreation Administrative Assistant

Others in Attendance:

Gary Hagen, 501 Albert Lea St

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chair Vern Rasmussen, Sr.

Approval of Agenda:

Mark Calderon made a motion to approve the agenda for this evenings meeting and Anne Sternhagen seconded the motion. The agenda was approved on a 6-0 voice vote.

Approval of Minutes:

Mark Calderon made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 19, 2018 meeting and Anne Sternhagen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved on a 6-0 voice vote.

Public Items: None

Action/Discussion Items:

Vern Rasmussen brought up canceling the August 21, 2018 Parks and Recreation Board meeting due to many people are busy this time of year with the Freeborn County Fair and students going back to school. There will not be a meeting unless something pressing comes up. Tristian Pestorious made a motion to approve and was seconded by Jennifer-Vogt Erickson. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

Old Business: *Vern Rasmussen wanted to clarify something mentioned during the last meeting in the minutes regarding attendance for softball leagues, he meant the low number of teams participating not the attendance to the games. *Correction has been noted.

Vern asked about the status of the proposed Lake Chapeau Park. Bob Furland advised Joe Grossman, Phil Wacholz and Jenny Davis met with the Doppelhammer family and another meeting has been scheduled.

Update Items:

Senior Center:

The Senior Center celebrated its 50th Anniversary on July 12, 2018 by hosting a party including cake and coffee, the gathering was attended by 140 people. The Senior Center is hosting a trip to the Wild Rose Casino on July 24th. Bob Furland advised new trip ideas will be introduced such as plays, Red Wings Shoes and Red Wing Pottery with a stop at the A&W stand on the way home. Furland passed out copies of the July 2018 Senior Center Newsletter. Jerry Gabrielatos, Teresa Kauffmann and Carol Marth put together a new format for the newsletter and will become part of these minutes by reference. Furland has been working with Carol on processes for taking in money and programming.

Parks:

- The install of the Hayek playground equipment is in the works.
- Construction on the beach shelter will be starting soon as well. The benches purchased with a Statewide Health Improvement Partnership Program (SHIP) grant have been installed along the Blue Zones walk ways including Edgewater Park and the Brookside Trail. The drinking fountains have been installed at the designated park buildings.
- The Legion baseball tournament will be held July 26th-July 28th.

Arena:

- The ice was taken out July 2nd
- The Chapel Con event will be held this weekend July 21st-22nd (11am-7pm Saturday and 11am-4pm Sunday) Gilbert Johnson is running this event and booth participation has grown from 78 last year to 150 this year. Many celebrities such as Sam Jones (Flash Gordon), RJ Mitte (Breaking Bad) will be part of this event.
- The arena sidewalk repairs are complete including footings to avoid the concrete from heaving.
- The Annual Dog Show will be August 11th -12th
- Ice will go back on the first week in September.

Recreation:

- The Playpark Program will be closing July 27th, this program included several new events including an obstacle course.
- Swimming lessons have been filling up and the third and final session will run Monday July 30th-August 10th.
- Summer Carnival was held Wednesday (July 11th 4-7pm) at Fountain Lake Park. Attendance for this event was really good (265 people) even though the weather was very hot that day.
- Tennis Camp Session 2 is in progress (July 10-July 26)
- Adult Volleyball and Softball Leagues are starting to wind down, league tournaments will start at the end of July into early August.
- Playparks will be traveling to the Aquatic Center tomorrow (July 18th).
- D.J. Pool party is scheduled July 19th from 1-4pm and August 9 from 6:30-8pm which includes prize drawings and games.
- Movies in the Park will be held on Friday, July 20th, Three Stooges Marathon starting at 8:30pm, this is a movie that can be played and does not require a license. Other communities have been using old movies and has been popular.
- Beach Luau will be held Wednesday July 25th at the City Beach from 6-9pm
- H2Whoa! Which is a giant slip and slide will be held at Wedgwood Park Friday July 27th from 4:30-7pm, this is a really popular event and we are hoping for a nice hot day again.
- Thursdays on Fountain was held July 12th and Skunk River Band performed in spite of the hot weather 300 people attended. We are still averaging over 400 for most Thursdays. Six Mile Grove will be playing at the next Thursday and attendance could be up to 600 if the weather cooperates.
- The Recreation Department has been working on the implementation of new registration software program Max Galaxy.
- Rock-n-Roll the Lakes bike ride was held Saturday, July 14th. Albert Lea Area Cyclists, Have Fun Biking and Bike Minnesota along with 65 volunteers hosted the ride which included a 10, 25 and

50 mile route. This event was attended by approximately 260 riders. This is planned on being an annual event. Bike Minnesota will be a co-sponsor for this event. This event received many positive comments from those who participated. Furland advised they are always looking for volunteers if anyone is interested.

- Three out of the four Edgewater Marina Dock spaces have been rented.

Board Member Items:

Vern Rasmussen Sr. made a comment it is nice to see all the families at the Splash Pad.

Jason Howland commented the musical Beauty and the Beast held at the Marion Ross was sold out. Downtown has been busy with all the activities happening.

Furland advised the curtains, possibly two furnaces and carpet at the Marion Ross Performing Arts Center will be updated soon.

Jason Howland advised he received a noise complaint from a resident in his ward of loud music going on in the Edgewater Park band shell from 4:30pm-6:30pm, beating drums to be specific. Park and Rec has not received any complaints. The reporting party who lives on Bay Oaks Dr. advised this has been going on since May.

Mark Calderon advised the Albert Lea Lakers Baseball Team season is going well and getting approximately 50-150 people attending games. Playoffs will be going on during fair week.

Jennifer Vogt-Erickson commented she likes the weekly playpark schedules sent out over social media as she lives by Hawthorne Park and can easily find out what activities are going on.

Bob Furland passed out the arena counter information, this data tracks how many people come into the arena on any given day. This informational sheet becomes part of the minutes by reference. Furland advised he plans on sharing this information monthly with the board.

Jennifer Vogt Erickson advised "The Story Show" is being held on July 26th and the theme is "Let Your Light Shine" the proceeds from this event will go toward funding the Downtown Christmas Lights.

Vern Rasmussen, Sr. advised the American Legion is also having a bingo game during Wind Down Wednesday and the proceeds will go toward funding the Downtown Christmas Lights as well. Prizes and cash will be awarded to the winners.

Adjournment: Dan Borland made a motion to adjourn the Park Board meeting at 6:11pm, and Mark Calderon seconded the motion. Adjournment was approved on a 6-0 voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson
Acting Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Secretary

Approved:

Vern Rasmussen Sr.
Park & Recreation Advisory Board Vice Chairman