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MINUTES

PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at 5:15pm

City Hall Training Room

5:15pm CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – Meeting convened at 5:15pm.

Members Present: Susan Reese (chair), Jim Nordgren, Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Dennis Zielski, and Patricia LaRue.

Members Absent: Hal Watson (council rep).

Staff Present: Cindi Danke - *Recreation Manager*; Amy M. Peterson – *Assistant Community Development Director*; Tom Schwalen - *Maintenance Supervisor*; and Terry Kusilek - *Public Works Operations Supervisor*.

Others Present: Local citizen Ben Fochs.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

MSC Gaulke/Dobbertin to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2016 Park and Recreation Advisory Board. Motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

St. Croix Valley Bird group is planting milkweed plugs in a Highview non-maintained grassy area up on a 20' x 40' area ridge. The Prairie Enthusiasts group is also planning to plant native butterfly-friendly plants.

City staff got rid of a half-pipe at the Hoffman Park Skate Park. Two of the four structures are now gone because structures are unsafe.

OLD BUSINESS

The Glen Park master plan was discussed. The chair asked each board member to share their opinion. Park Board is unanimously in favor of the park plan. Several people reiterated that the shelter buildings (storm shelter or otherwise) must look like it fits into the natural and historic aspect of Glen Park.

Amy Peterson reminded Park Board there will be multiple chances in the next year and a half for Park Board and the public to have design input. In addition, we do not have to accept the grant for the safe room if we receive it and decide not to go that route.

Last night City Council had a budget workshop with CIP and discussion on the Park Master plans. The management analyst Keri will come back in the fall to look at recreation fees with Park Board. There will be two years of data to analyze.

NEW BUSINESS

Danke gave an update on recreation programs. 159 kids participated in spring swimming lessons, and so far 659 are signed up for summer lessons and people add daily. There were almost 1,000 open swim visitors in the first week and a half, which included some days of cold or stormy weather. Other programs are also doing well, but we had to cancel the Butterfly class due to low enrollment.

ADJOURNMENT

MSC Dobbertin/Nordgren to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle, Recreation Assistant