

Community Services Department

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PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES OCTOBER 18, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. CITY HALL TRAINING ROOM

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Patricia LaRue (chair), Scott Morrissette (Council Rep), Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Melissa Pedrini, and Natasha Schaefer.

Members Absent: Matt Janquart.

Staff Present: Brenda Rundle-Recreation Assistant, Erica Ellefson-Public Works Manager, Amy White-Community Services Director/City Clerk, and Emily Shively-Assistant Director of Community Development.

Others Present: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC Gaulke/Morrissette to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2023 Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

Morrissette announced that the Rotary will be cleaning up Veterans Park this Saturday at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome to help.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Assistant Director of Community Development Emily Shively shared a memo recommending a collection of fees in lieu of parkland dedication fees for the Mann Valley corporate park at Cty Hwy U and Cty Hwy M, just northwest of DeSanctis Park. There will be sixty acres of conservancy open space on the mound plus about twenty acres of open space in the dry run. There is not an identified need for additional parkland in that area, and there is going to be a number of acres of open space there. The intent is to eventually develop trails, parking and a trailhead at the mound. The fees can be used for park improvements in the City. It goes to plan commission next, then City Council.

MSC Morrissette/Pedrini to approve the collection of fees in lieu of parkland dedication for the Mann Valley plat. Carried 6-0.

STAFF REPORTS

2. Public Works report - Manager Erica Ellefson said a handful of residents complained about the mowing pilot in DeSanctis Park, in which staff only mowed high use areas on a regular basis to allow prairie pollinators to grow and allow the City to maximize staff and equipment resources. (The entire park was mowed in spring and fall.) The pilot will likely continue next year, and wildflower seeds and shorter grasses may be added, along with possibly a pollinator sign. The new vinyl Glover Station sign has been installed in the schoolhouse

window and looks great. Irv built a surround to help hide the porta potty and garbage cans at DeSanctis Park. An additional trail segment was added adjacent to Radio and Paulson Roads, connecting Sterling Ponds to the rest of the city trails.

3. Recreation report – Recreation Manager Cindi Danke said this was the first weekend since spring that the campground was not full for the weekend. 2023 camping statistics will be shared next month. People were excited about the new playground equipment at four parks.

ADJOURNMENT

MSC Schaeffer/Dobbertin to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

CALENDAR

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be November 15, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Training Room.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle
Customer Service Representative