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PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
Glen Park Pavilion

Members Present: Patricia LaRue (chair), Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Matt Janquart, Alyssa Mueller (Council Rep), and Natasha Schaefer

Members Absent: Melissa Pedrini

Staff Present: Cindi Danke-Recreation Manager; Brenda Rundle-Recreation Assistant; and Mike Stifter-Public Works Director.

Others Present: Ben Fochs, Susan Reese, Peter Reese, and Rick Bowen.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 5:16 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC Mueller/Janquart to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2022 Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

Alyssa asked about the time frame that Park Board meets. It can be discussed if the current time does not work for members.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Park Board looked at the new playground equipment added at Glen Park, which consists of a modular play structure, play wall, two diggers, and two tot swings. The \$30,000.00 equipment was funded by former shareholders (1929-2009) of River Falls Golf Club, while the City funded the poured-in-place rubber surface. Photos were taken with Rick Bowen, Susan Reese, Peter Reese, and Park Board members. Cindi thanked them on behalf of the City of River Falls. A plaque will be added to the equipment.

2. The final location has not yet been decided for the “Blossom” art sculpture at Glen Park, but the southeast and northwest corners of the park are being considered, possibly leaning towards the latter. The artist will have input as well.

3. Park Board looked at the new historic photos in Glen Park which were chosen and purchased by Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). There are two in the event room, and two in the bathroom hallway. Descriptive plaques will follow.

4. Mike Stifter updated Park Board on park projects. Five main playground projects are on the agenda for next summer, and they will benefit from some ARPA funding and late-season pricing. DeSanctis Park will get a swing set and site amenities. The trail through DeSanctis Park

will be re-surfaced next year. A survey will go out soon to residents near Westdale Park and Collins Park. Those two parks will likely receive replacement playground equipment in 2023, and Collins trails will be re-surfaced in 2024. Sterling Ponds overseeding was finished last week on the front part, and tall Karl Forester grasses were planted in the back part. About 25 trees were planted. A backstop and soccer nets were added, and next summer playground equipment will be added. Wells Park will also have playground equipment added next summer. Growth will be monitored in new and growing neighborhoods to see if new playgrounds or shelters will be needed. The dog park parking lot will be paved next week. The East Division Street trail will be re-paved from the funeral home to the new jughandle in the next week or two.

ACTION ITEMS

None

CALENDAR

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be November 16, 2022. The December meeting will likely be December 14, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

MSC Mueller/Dobbertin to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle
Customer Service Representative