

Park Board Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2018

Park Board Members Present: Ron Brunk, Susan Schnee, Terri Dunn, Jim DeHerrera, Ray Boksich, Eric Matson and Richard Hildner

Park Board Members Absent: Frank Sweeney

Guest:

City Staff Present: Maria Butts, Mary Blubaugh

A. Call to Order: 7:00 pm

B. Approval of the April 10, 2018 Agenda- Vice President DeHerrera moved to approve the agenda. Member Hildner seconded. A vote was taken with all ayes.

C. Approval of the March 13, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes – Member Hildner abstains as he was not in attendance. Member Boksich moved to approve the minutes. Vice President DeHerrera seconded. A vote was taken with all ayes.

D. Public Comments –

E. Committee Reports

a. Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee – Vice President DeHerrera reported the pieces are all coming together. The City Manager is going to talk with the local manager of Les Schwab regarding their easement. The owners of the Duck Inn expressed an interest in creating an easement.

b. Tree Advisory Committee – Member Dunn said the committee did not meet.

c. WSFF Board – President Brunk reported the Board met today. He was unable to attend but talked with Greg Harms. Greg reported they will take out the ice in June and do any necessary repairs.

d. WAG Board – Member Boksich said the paved parking lot is fantastic. He asked Director Butts if she had seen the plans for the next dog park project. Director Butts said she had not seen them but had been informed of the scope. When she does receive the plans, she will need to show them to Public Works as there is a request to tap into a water line. Maria will also let them know they need to present the plans to the Park Board. Member Boksich said the north field will be closed until the end of the month.

F. Presentations - None

G. Public Hearings - None

H. Old Business – Request from Mike Fitzgerald to rename “Canoe Park’ as “Brian Sullivan Paddle Park” – upon completion of the other Agenda items the Park Board reconvened at Canoe Park to visit the site. After walking the site, it was decided to table any action until more discussion could be had.

I. New Business – Appointment of four subcommittee positions – Bruce Boody and Dan Cassidy reapplied as members of the Tree Advisory Committee. John Phelps and John Repke reapplied as members of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee. There were no other candidates for either committee. Member Dunn made a motion to reappoint these candidates to their committees. Member Schnee seconded. A vote was taken with all ayes.

J. Other Items - None

K. Items from Parks and Recreation Department

a. Administrative Report – Director Butts had prepared a FY19 budget presentation for the Park Board. She also reviewed current Parks and Recreation projects. Director Butts informed the Board the Depot Park Master Plan Phase 1 has been delayed (2) days due to rain. The completion date is now June 22nd.

b. Recreation Coordinator – Preparations for Summer Camp continue. The department was awarded a Whitefish Community Foundation Grant totaling \$3,000. A new tennis instructor with (7) years of experience has been hired.

c. Parks Maintenance – Irrigation start up has begun. A new dock has been installed at Baker Park. Seasonal help has been hired. The remodel of the City Beach restrooms continues. The Armory gym has been painted.

d. Community Services Coordinator Report – Both City Beach and State Park AIS stations opened May 1st. All rangers and assistants have been hired. The Reservoir Trailhead opened officially May 1st.

L. Correspondence – None

M. Items from Park Board:

Eric Matson – None

Ray Boksich – None

Jim DeHerrera – None

Richard Hildner - None

Terry Dunn – None

Susan – None

Ron Brunk – President Brunk wanted to let the Park Board know they may be approached by Project Whitefish Kids board members. PWK is currently fundraising for a playground project. The board would like to use Resort Tax monies for their project. President Brunk said we, the Parks and Recreation Department, have need of these monies ourselves. He reminded the Park Board that when the City was first presented with the offer of owning the land now called Smith Fields, the City did not want it because they were unable to maintain and staff it. PWK then signed a lease agreement with the City, stating that they would maintain the 51 acres without the support of taxpayer dollars. Director Butts said the PWK lease agreement with the City states no tax payer monies can go for Smith Fields. The City Manager and Finance Director told them they would have to change their lease agreement to solicit those funds. Richard Hildner stated he had met with PWK and thought they had some compelling reasons to receive City funds for the project.

N. Adjourn: The Park Board adjourned to Canoe Park at 8:05 PM.