

**PARK BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2015**

Chair Craig Kittel called the Park Board meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29, 2015.

**Members Present:** Craig Kittel, Jon Hailey, Tania Strawn, Brian Schroeder, Christine Melby, and Student Representative James Elkin

**Members Absent:** Joe Ard and Frank Norton

**Others Present:** Bill Driscoll, Jim Zajkowski, Lynette McCarty, Rodney Hanson, Dave Green, Noah Wiedenfeld, Jeremiah Wendt, and Marie Bannink

Jon Hailey moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Brian Schroeder, motion carried.

Jon Hailey moved to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2015, seconded by Brian Schroeder, motion carried.

**Public Business Items**

Craig Kittel welcomed Christine Melby to the Park Board.

Craig mentioned the VFW is looking for a trail to adopt and clean up. There was discussion on what trail would be the best. Consensus was Doughboy Trail was the most used trail.

**Unfinished Business**

**Moving Wall, September 10 – 14, 2015:**

Jeremiah Wendt stated work is being done at the park. The parking lot is completed; grading will be worked on next week. Jeremiah said progress is being made on temporary traffic controls. The southern area will be shuttle drop off as well as handicap accessible area.

**Citizens Field Scoreboard:**

Jeremiah said things came together nicely. The next step is to remove the old scoreboard after the ball season is completed. Craig thanked Jim Zajkowski for his work in making this happen. The crew was amazing getting this put in place.

**New Business**

**The Vine Church:**

Christine Melby gave background information. There have been wire animals made and they would like to hang these at Mary Park. Motion was made by Tania Strawn to allow the wire animals to be safely displayed at Mary Park and take them down sometime in September, seconded by Jon Hailey, motion carried.

**Skate Park Design & Funding:**

Jeremiah gave an update on the design meeting last Wednesday. At this point there are no slab sizes or cost estimates. Jim Zajkowski and Lynette McCarty are working on fundraising. Jim

asked about getting a blanket approval for fundraising. Lynette commented she has applied to Bernicks & other possible grant sources . Jim may have someone lined up to do the base work. Lynette said they are looking at different fundraising from bagging groceries to selling calendars. Christine asked about doing an event at the site and possibly contacting companies to raffle off a couple of BMX bikes or skate boards. Jeremiah estimated \$35,000.00 to put in a 100x100 slab. Lynette would also like to work with the kids on designing artwork/logo and possibly do t-shirts.

Any donations that come in need to be approved by the Park Board, then approved by the City Council. Motion was made by Jon Hailey to allow Jim and Lynete to apply for grants, or approach businesses for donations for the skate park, but that any “fundraiser” events would need to be cleared with the Park Board ahead of time, seconded by Tania Strawn, motion carried.

There was discussion on making the skate park design more family friendly. Jim stated Darian Blattner from the Centre is committing to doing classes at the site.

### **VFW – Freedom Park:**

The VFW presented the plan they are working on. The proposed facility would have public restrooms that would be open year round. Phase one will be an open pavilion with the restrooms. The open walls on the pavilion may have roll down doors so the pavilion can be used in the winter months in conjunction with cross country skiing or other outdoor activities. The exterior would have a cabin look. The second phase would be the banquet hall. Wedding receptions and rentals would provide income to sustain this building. Dave Green explained every caterer in town would have an opportunity to book this area for an event. A survey could be done with all the caterers in town to see what is needed. Dave emphasized there would not be liquor license requested for this facility. Dave explained the roofline and parking lot will be solar panels. This building would hold the VFW offices, their meetings as well as Park Board meeting could be held there. Jon Hailey moved to recommend that the City Council approve the general concept plan presented by the VFW, allow the VFW to work with the Park Board on the general location and size, and direct staff and VFW to work on drafting a proposed lease contract, seconded by Christine Melby, motion carried.

### **Cyclone Park Property Ownership:**

Jeremiah explained that various groups in the City have a number of events at Cyclone Park. It has been brought to the City attention that WITC owns the portion of this property north of Meridian Drive. WITC generally does not have a problem with events in this area, but needs to be consulted for permission. Their primary concern is that their parking lots tend to be filled by people attending these events, and they need to account for this in their scheduling. The City will continue to maintain this area.

### **Youth Football at Freedom Park:**

Youth Football has requested the use of fields at Freedom Park for several weeks in August and September. Jeremiah stated if there is an impact on the fields prior to the moving wall, football will need to look at another alternative. Noah Wiedenfeld contacted some neighboring communities to see what was done. See attached. There was discussion on options for covering the lining charges. Jon Hailey moved to accept the youth football use of Freedom Park on the

schedule they proposed at no cost, they will take care of lining the fields, we will take care of mowing and garbage, for this year, seconded by Tania Strawn, motion carried.

**Park Land Trust Report:**

**Park Land Trust Fund - \$45,094.14**

**Impact Fee Fund - \$54,694.03**

**Inspection Reports:**

None

**Announcements:**

There have been great comments on the Mill Pond Ramp.

The camp host is working out well at the campgrounds.

Jeremiah stated he received a beach advisory from St. Croix County tonight regarding Mary Park beach. This level reads elevated because of the goose dropping and heavy rains.

Please respond to the meeting invite or send an email on attendance.

Skate park budget to be put on next month's agenda.

Jon Hailey moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Craig Kittel, motion carried.

The meeting of the Park Board was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by

Marie Bannink

City Secretary