

Meeting Minutes: Owatonna Park Board

Date: June 8, 2020

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Board Members	Present	Absent	Others Present, Staff	Others Present, Guests
Andi Arnold		X	Nikki Callahan, Administrative Technician	Mike Stockwell
David Christianson	X		Tim Truelson, Recreation Manager	Shane Sattler
Nicholas Elsner, Vice-Chair	X		Troy Klecker, Community Development Director/Parks and Recreation Interim Director	Mark Wilson
Angie Malo, Secretary	X		Mary Jo Knudson, Recreation Supervisor	Stephanie Olson
Jonathan Thiel	X		Eric Anderson, Recreation Manager	
Greg Posch, Chair	X		Dani Bakken, Recreation Supervisor	
Jonathan Douglas	X		Dani Licht, Recreation Supervisor	

Topic/Item	Summary of Discussion	Action
Items previously disseminated	Correspondence (incoming): None	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 4:30pm	
Roll Call	Andi Arnold - Absent Angie Malo - Present David Christianson - Present Jonathan Douglas - Present Jonathan Thiel - Present Nicholas Elsner - Present Greg Posch - Present	
Approval of Agenda	A motion was made by David Christianson to approve the agenda with a second by Jonathan Douglas. With a roll call vote, all members present voted aye for approval.	
Statement Reading	Troy Klecker read the Meeting Determination issued by City Administrator Busse on March 20, 2020 requiring meetings not be held in person during the current state of emergency because of COVID-19 concerns. This meeting was a virtual TEAMS meeting accessible by calling 507-242-3225 and entering the Conference ID: 356 110 987#. All participants are attending virtually, board members present are Angie Malo, David Christianson, Jonathan Douglas, Jonathan Thiel, Nicholas Elsner, and Greg Posch. Park and Rec staff present include Troy Klecker, Tim Truelson, Eric Anderson, Nikki Callahan, Mary Jo Knudson, Dani Licht, and Dani Bakken. Guest present include Mike Stockwell, Shane Sattler, Stephanie Olson and Mark Wilson	
Approval of Minutes	May 11, 2020 Minutes Angie Malo made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by David Christianson. With a roll call vote, all members present voted aye for approval.	
Persons wishing to appear	a. Peace Pole at the Park- Shane Sattler Shane Sattler spoke representing the early edition rotary. He would like to put a peace pole at a park. This is a white pole with 4 sides with the saying: "May peace prevail on earth" in 8 different languages: English, Spanish, Neur, Somali, Mandarin, Vietnamese, German and Hmong.	

Angie confirmed they decided on the languages after meeting with Sue Schroeder and Chris Picha from the School District. They would have 2 phases per side, making it a 4 sided pole. This would be paid for by the early edition rotary. David Christianson inquired as to which park they were considering. Shane Sattler would like to see it in Central Park. Greg Posch wanted to know the size of the pole. Shane Sattler shared that it would be about 6 feet tall and about 4-6" per side. They plan to place a plaque by the pole explaining the meaning. David Christianson would like to see what the draft when they have it finalized. Angie Malo wanted to know the exact placement in Central Park. Tim Truelson suggested putting it in one of the planters. Stephanie Olson agreed to walk through Central Park with some Park and Recreation staff to decide the best placement. David Christianson suggested doing a Norwegian language instead of German. Stephanie Olson suggested touching base with the Historical Society on the early settlers and what languages would work best. Troy Klecker followed up saying the Park Board would like to see the final look of the pole and the location before they follow through with the project. Our next meeting is Monday, July 13 and Shane Sattler plans to have the information we requested. The Park Board will then make a recommendation to council.

b. Archery Park-Mike Stockwell

Mike Stockwell would like to re-visit the idea of allowing cross bows at the Archery Park. Jonathan Douglas had a concern that cross bows shoot further than regular bows. Mike Stockwell stated cross bows would rarely get accidentally shot but agreed they can shoot further than a regular bow and arrow. The current targets are not rated for cross bows. Tim Truelson stated we would have to bring in a target specifically for the cross bows and place a sign on that target. Troy Klecker confirmed we would provide the targets which would cost around \$400. Mike Stockwell stated a 40 yard target would be sufficient. David Christianson asked how long targets last. Tim Truelson stated they have only had to replace a few targets due to broadheads being shot at them so they do last a long time. Mike Stockwell thought the crossbow targets would last longer due to them not being used as much. Greg Posch asked if you can use a cross bow for deer hunting. Jonathan Douglas confirmed yes you can use a cross bow during deer hunting season. Troy Klecker asked if you can use a regular bow and arrow on the cross bow target. Mike Stockwell confirmed you can. Greg Posch asked if the neighbors would have a problem with the crossbows. Angie Malo said when we started the current archery park that we told the neighbors we would test it out with the regular targets and re-visit the idea of adding more. Angie Malo followed up with the Park and Recreation staff and in the 2 ½ years of having this park we have only had 1 complaint call. Angie Malo thinks we can have a meeting with the neighbors again and give them our data of everything that has happened in the last 2 ½ years and ask them to consider moving forward with a new phase of adding cross bows. Jonathan Douglas asked if we would have to make the new target handicap accessible. Tim Truelson said we might have to put some crushed gravel going out the target. Jonathan Douglas asked about possibly having to put in a bench. Mike Stockwell thought that

	<p>would be up to the shooter to provide. Troy Klecker would like to know the board's thoughts on moving forward with a neighborhood discussion. Angie Malo made a motion to move forward with adding cross bows to the park with a second by Jonathan Thiel. With a roll call vote, all members present voted aye for approval.</p> <p>Mike Stockwell is willing to join in the neighborhood meetings if needed.</p>	
Park Permits	<p>a. September 19- Gus's Car Show - SCHS</p> <p>b. September 20- Steele County Historical Society Extravaganza</p> <p>A motion was made by David Christianson to approve the park permits with a second by Jonathan Douglas. With a roll call vote, all members present voted aye for approval.</p>	
Staff Reports	<p>a. 2019 and 2020 YTD Budget through June 2, 2020 – The 2019 budget has been finalized and the department came in under budget. This year's budget will be hard to monitor. There will be a shortage on revenues but there will also be some savings on expenditures. At this point we are expecting a shortfall and trying to manage it as best we can. We furloughed three part-time recreation staff at the beginning of May until further notice. The golf course opened, and weather has been in our favor this year. Tournaments are now allowed and but in a smaller manner. Revenues will not come in from tournaments as normal.</p> <p>b. Sponsors, Partners and Volunteers</p> <p>Tim reviewed the sponsors, partners and volunteers for 2019. Numbers will be different for 2020 as we had to cancel soccer, t-ball and mini sluggers this year. Coaches numbers will also be down for 2020 with those programs being cancelled. Eric summarized the volunteers and partners for the West Hills Social Commons and West Hills Tennis and Fitness Center. Mary Jo mentioned that we have Tee box Sponsors at Brooktree.</p>	<p>Troy Klecker reported</p> <p>Tim Truelson and Eric Anderson reported</p>
Unfinished Business	<p>a. Inclusive Playground, Miracle Field – We have \$850,00 committed to the project. They met with Mohs contracting and the surveying company. We should have a plan of the layout next week. They will start with some of the construction this year.</p> <p>b. Covid 19 updates</p> <p>Outdoor amenities are all open. Lake Kohlmier Beach opened June 4. River Springs Water Park will be used for programming starting June 15. Pools can open up to 50% capacity starting June 10. We will not open up that early as we have to train staff. We also need to have a Covid plan in place. We hope to have it open by July for open swim but at a lower capacity.</p> <p>Little League started practices tonight with a Covid plan. We are starting daycamps and track next week. Fastpitch will start in July. We have safety plans that were distributed to the participants.</p> <p>Eric Anderson is working on a tennis plan for the summer. The tennis pro was going to leave at the end of September but after discussion with council and staff we ended his contract early.</p>	<p>Tim Truelson reported</p> <p>Troy Klecker reported</p> <p>Tim Truelson reported</p> <p>Eric Anderson reported</p>
New Business	<p>a. Remote Control Vehicle Track</p>	<p>Troy Klecker reported</p>

There is a group who competes in remote control races. They want to build a track utilizing what we already have, but they would add a few obstacles. This is something they want to build in Kaplan's Woods in the parking lot area. Jonathan Douglas has seen these vehicles around and they use similar items that they use for the mountain biking track. Angie Malo has seen some people running their remote control vehicles in Mineral Springs Park. Angie doesn't like the idea of putting it in Kaplan's Woods especially with added the mountain bike trail. Angie Malo and David Christianson don't want to take away from Kaplan's Woods and its peaceful nature. Troy Klecker will get more information from this group and we will have further discussion next month. They have a Facebook Page called Rcwolf Hobby Club. Angie Malo is concerned about the damage that might happen with these large vehicles if we allow it in our parks. Jonathan Douglas said there is a RC group for remote control airplanes. It could be a possibility for them to partner with that group and share the land.

b. Fitness Center

Troy stated with the pandemic it has put us in a hard spot with the Fitness Center. We have explored E Sports to try and increase revenue and expand our patron group. For the sustainability of our department, we don't want to compete against the private sector and open it back up as a Fitness Center. We have explored many ideas such as an indoor playground. We would like to offer something in town that we do not currently have.

We are not opening up the Fitness Center on Wednesday as the governor has approved.

Troy is looking for ideas from the Park Board and is envisioning something for families, kids, teens and people of all ages.

Angie Malo has many concerns about taking away the fitness center as it provides a place for kids to go who cannot afford the other fitness centers. Angie Malo is concerned about the pool and the water aerobics patrons as well. Troy said the pool may not be affected. As long as it is operational they will keep it going for programming. Troy Klecker would like the Park Board to give some thought on what the community needs in this area. We could also use it as a flexible space and rotate pickleball, basketball, indoor playground and more. Troy Klecker is asking all park board members to ask around and see what the public is wanting to see in Owatonna.

Eric Anderson commented that we will have to refund memberships as needed.

David Christianson asked if we have contacted local fitness centers to offer specials for those who have to leave our fitness center. Troy Klecker stated he has not done that and he hopes all people will find a new one to join.

Board Questions/ Comments	<p>Angie Malo – Angie state the beach was packed yesterday with people not wearing masks. The water looked great as the wind was blowing out all the weeds. She said she is concerned about the fitness center closing. She thinks we need to talk to the school district about what they are planning on putting in their new facility. We need to address what the kids need when we think about what we want to put in the current fitness center.</p> <p>David Christianson – none</p> <p>Jonathan Douglas – none</p> <p>Jonathan Thiel – None</p> <p>Nicholas Elsner – None</p> <p>Greg Posch – Wondering why there is not a porta potty at the Boat landing at Lake Kohlmier. Troy will check with Jesse.</p> <p>Eric Anderson – Drive in movie- June 19-20 at the River Springs Water Park. It is a free will donation and you have to pre register. We can have 55 per day. Angie wanted to know about concessions. Eric said we are not going to do it this time.</p>	
Adjournment	<p>Adjourned at 6:35 pm</p> <p>Jonathan Douglas made a motion to adjourn the Park Board meeting at with a second by Angie Malo. With a roll call vote, all members present voted aye for approval.</p>	
Next Meeting	Monday, July 13, 2020	