

**MINUTES - UNAPPROVED
OWATONNA PARK AND RECREATION
REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING
July 12, 2021
4:30 PM**

Members Present: Gina McGuire, Sara Baird, Greg Posch, Angie Malo, Jon Thiel, Jonathan Douglas, David Christianson

Staff Present: Jenna Tuma: Senior Director of Parks and Recreation, Jesse Wilker: Recreation Manager, Mary Jo Knudson: Administrative Specialist, Dani Licht Recreation Supervisor, Drake Simonson, Recreation Supervisor

Guest: Council member Kevin Raney

OPENING BUSINESS

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call: Greg Posch – Present, Angie Malo – Present, David Christianson – Present, Jonathan Douglas – Present, Jon Thiel – Present, Sara Baird – Present, Gina McGuire – Present

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Angie Malo, second by Jonathan Douglas to approve the July 12, 2021 Park Board Meeting Agenda. All members voted aye for approval.

APPROVAL OF THE June 14, 2021 MINUTES

Motion by Jon Thiel to approve the June 14, 2021 Park Board Meeting Minutes with the second by Angie Malo. All members voted aye for approval with the following corrections:

- Jonathan Douglas was listed as absent and present; he was not present for the June 14th meeting.
- Statement from Angie Malo regarding the Manthey Park trash and suggested sign should state “the trash was reported to Malo and a sign was recommended by the park user”
- Under Adjournment: correct spelling for Jon Thiel’s name.

PERSONS WISHING TO APPEAR-

- a. None

PARK PERMITS

- a. Sunrise Yoga – August 6, 2021 at Lake Kohlmier (date change from July 9)

Staff Report: Mary Jo Knudson said the permit changed to the August date, with no other changes.

- b. Big Brothers Big Sisters Summer Picnic – July 20, 2021 at West Hills
Staff Report: Knudson said this is the same program as past years, no changes
- c. Music Concerts – July 26, August 9, August 23, 2021 at Central Park
Staff Report: Knudson noted their music structure is under construction looking for artist to perform at Central Park as part of the “11 at 7 series”, fee is waived because he is doing the closing, no staff time is used.

Motion by Gina McGuire, second by Jonathan Douglas to approve the park permits. All members voted aye for approval.

Jon Thiel inquired about the calendar of events and prevention of double booking. Staff noted they coordinate the calendar to ensure availability before the permit comes to the Park Board for approval.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Project Updates
 - i. We All Play: Jesse Wilker provided a project update noting the project is wrapping up this week with the installation of sod, hydro-mulch, and field fence. He is preparing for the grand opening.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Local Trails Connection Grant Award
Parks & Recreation was awarded the Minnesota Local Trail Connections grant in the amount of \$99,650. There is \$125,000 planned in the CIP for 2022 from the city. The trail connects Kaplan's Woods Parkway to the 18th Street Trail, going through Kaplan's Woods, bypassing the Kaplan's Woods parking lot. The trail is almost 1/4 mile in length. The construction of the trail will be contracted, as per grant guidelines. No work or expenses will be incurred until full execution of the grant contract, which will happen over the next couple months.
- b. River Springs Water Park Tour
Dani Licht provided the group a tour of behind-the-scenes operations of the water park.

COMMUNICATION

- a. Director's Report:
Jenna Tuma update the Park Board on staffing updates and introduced Drake Simonson as the Recreation Supervisor; his first day was July 12th. Tuma reminded the Board of the Grand Opening celebration at Manthey Park on July 19th and provided an overview of the event. Tuma noted the 2022 budget process has started and will provide the Park Board updates as it progresses.
- b. Staff Report-
Jesse Wilker provided an update on Brooktree Golf Course noting staff are working on restoration of 4 greens with turf damage. He said he is working with the U of M and

DNR on the best approach to resolve the issue. Wilker said the heat and over watering are factors influencing the turf condition. He said staff have sodded the collars and are seeding the greens. There should be noticeable improvements in the weeks ahead. Wilker noted staff are busy doing day to day operations that include daily field prep for 13 games and working to support ball tournaments on the weekends.

Eric Anderson, Recreation Manager, updated the Board on a busy summer of recreation programs. He introduced Drake Simonson and provided a brief background on Drake and noted he is no stranger to the operations and happy to have him back.

c. Board Member Report

Greg Posch: Greg asked for a golf report for the next meeting.

David Christianson: None

Jonathan Douglas: None

Angie Malo: None

Jon Thiel: None

Gina McGuire: None

Sara Baird: None

d. Announcements

i. In the News

- a. Weekly Owatonna People's Press articles:
<http://ci.owatonna.mn.us/Blog.aspx?CID=3>
- b. Owatonna Live Straight Talk (Tim Truelson was guest): [Straight Talk](#) (owatonnalive.com) – aired 6/15

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Jon Thiel with a second by Gina McGuire to adjourn the Park Board Meeting. All members present voted aye for approval.

The next board meeting will be on August 9, 2021 at 4:30pm at Manthey Park.