

Meeting Minutes: Owatonna Park Board

Date: February 10, 2020

Location: Council Chambers

| Board Members | Present | Absent | Others Present, Staff | Others Present, Guests |
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| Andi Arnold | X | | Nikki Callahan, Administrative Technician | |
| David Christianson | X | | Tim Truelson, Recreation Manager | |
| Nicholas Elsner, Vice-Chair | X | | Troy Klecker, Community Development Director/Parks and Recreation Interim Director | |
| Angie Malo, Secretary | | X | Dani Licht, Recreation Supervisor | |
| Jonathan Thiel | X | | Jesse Wilker, Parks Manager | |
| Greg Posch, Chair | X | | Eric Anderson, Recreation Manager | |
| Jonathan Douglas | X | | | |

| Topic/Item | Summary of Discussion | Action |
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| Items previously disseminated | Correspondence (incoming): None Event Permits: a. None | |
| Call to Order | Meeting called to order at 4:30pm | |
| Approval of Agenda | | Motion: David Christianson Second: Nicholas Elsner Approved |
| Approval of Minutes | January 13, 2020 | Motion: Nicholas Elsner Second: David Christianson Approved |
| Persons wishing to appear | None | |
| Park Permits | a. May 9- Rock Crawling Adventure – Mineral Springs Park | Motion: Jonathan Thiel Second: Jonathan Douglas Approved |
| Staff Reports | a. 2019 and 2020 YTD Budget through February 4, 2020 – There is not much to report for 2020 as we are only into the first month. 2019 budget numbers will be finalized in March. It is looking that we will come in under budget for 2019. b. West Hills Tennis and Fitness Center – Dani Licht reviewed 2019 highlights, challenges and future initiatives. 2019 was over budget by \$22,000. Some of this is due to a wage increase in part time staff as well as some full-time staff wages. Greg Posch sent a picture of some damaged netting that he would like to see fixed. Eric Anderson said he | Troy Klecker reported Dani Licht reported |

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| | <p>is aware of it and is working on a solution. The company said it is not a manufacturing problem, it is from people stepping on the netting. Greg Posch recommended having a Velcro piece put down to prevent the netting sitting too low on the courts. Eric Anderson and staff will continue to look for a solution.</p> | |
| Unfinished Business | <p>a. Inclusive Playground, Miracle Field –They have \$383,000 in the bank and another \$373,000 committed. They have also raised money to purchase 6 pieces of equipment. There are 4 businesses giving in kind services. They have submitted 4 grants for a total of \$155,000. The grants are from Cosco, West Bank, Otto Bremer Foundation and the Twins Community Fund. They should find out about these awards by May. The time line is to finalize the design by mid-March and break ground in August. The equipment has arrived and is paid.</p> <p>b. Master Plan – They had a joint council and park board meeting with the consulting presentation. This will go to council for final approval on February 18.</p> | <p>Tim Truelson reported</p> <p>Troy Klecker reported</p> |
| New Business | <p>a. Nature Play Area- We are looking to create a nature play area at Mineral Springs this spring/summer. David Christianson wanted to know what the life expectancy is of these materials. Jesse Wilker said they should last about 10 years. They will keep adding and changing out materials as needed. They have visited a few in the area and have a few community members helping with ideas.</p> <p>b. West Hills Tennis and Fitness Center Gym- We have a smaller gym that is mostly used for pickup games of basketball. Over the years it has become more of a hangout place. Some of the patrons have not been following the rules and have been disrespectful to staff. The staff are uncomfortable and have had to involve the police on occasion. The solution they have come up with is a schedule of open court time, tot time, family time, noon ball, and programming. They are open to moving the schedule around to accommodate patrons/staff recommendations. Andi Arnold wanted to know if it is supervised by paid staff or volunteers. Eric Anderson said it is all paid staff. Andi wanted to know the main time frame of these occurrences. Dani Licht confirmed that they have had the most trouble between 6:30pm and 9:45 pm. Dani said that the staff are feeling more comfortable with the new schedule and it seems to be working. Andi was wondering if they were having issues with vaping. Eric and Dani confirmed that is not an issue. The tot time from 8am-10am has been very popular. David Christianson wanted to know how we are promoting the tot time. Dani said they are mostly advertising it on Facebook. There have been a few members asking for refunds due to the court restrictions and we have responded to those requests. Overall the transition has gone well with the new schedule.</p> <p>c. Local Trails Connection Grant- We are applying for a Local Trails Connection Grant for 2021 construction. The trail we are working on is the connection of Kaplan’s Woods Parkway to the 18th Street Trail, bypassing the Kaplan’s Woods Parking lot. We also hope to receive TAP grant monies to continue the 18th street to Austin Road. This grant will go to council for approval.</p> | <p>Jesse Wilker reported</p> <p>Troy Klecker reported</p> <p>Troy Klecker reported</p> |

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| | <p>There are also several gaps in our trails system that we will be working on over the next 5 years that are a part of our Master Plan.</p> <p>d. Outdoor Recreation Grant - We are applying for an Outdoor Recreation Grant for 2021 construction. This grant will be used to build a retaining wall at the beach, a new ADA ramp, and an ADA walkway to dock with ADA kayak launch. This grant will go to council for approval.</p> | Troy Klecker reported |
| Board Questions/ Comments | <p>Andi Arnold – She likes the idea of the schedule for the gym and is excited about the nature play area.</p> <p>Nicholas Elsner – none</p> <p>Greg Posch – Greg wants to know who is in charge of the fundraising for the soccer association. Tim will give him the information. Greg inquired about the old Hardee’s area.</p> <p>Jonathan Thiel – noticed someone put no snowmobiling signs at the new soccer complex and they seem to be working.</p> <p>David Christianson – none</p> <p>Jonathan Douglas- none</p> | |
| Adjournment | Adjourned at 5:24 PM | Motion: Jonathan Thiel Second: Andi Arnold |
| Next Meeting | Monday, March 9, 2020 | |