

## Meeting Minutes: Owatonna Park Board

**Date:** August 17, 2020

**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

Board Members	Present	Absent	Others Present, Staff	Others Present, Guests
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		Mary Jo Knudson, Recreation Supervisor	
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 4:34pm	
Roll Call	Andi Arnold – Absent Angie Malo - Present David Christianson - Present Jonathan Douglas - Present Jonathan Thiel – Absent Nicholas Elsner - Present Greg Posch – Present	
Approval of Agenda	A motion was made by David Christianson to approve the agenda with a second by Angie Malo. With a roll call vote, all members present voted aye for approval.	
Statement Reading	Greg Posch 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: 561 218 494#. All participants are attending virtually, board members present are Angie Malo, David Christianson, Jonathan Douglas, 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.	
Approval of Minutes	July 13, 2020 Minutes David Christianson made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Angie Malo. With a roll call vote, all members present voted aye for approval.	
Persons wishing to appear	a. None	
Park Permits	a. September 12, 2020- Girl Scout Sign up at Central Park b. September 13, 2020 – Walk to End Alzheimer's c. September 21-26, 2020- Big Brothers Big Sisters Fundraiser at West Hills	

	A motion was made by Jonathan Douglas to approve the park permits with a second by Nicholas Elsner. With a roll call vote, all members present voted aye for approval.	
Staff Reports	a. 2019 and 2020 YTD Budget through August 11, 2020 –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.	Troy Klecker reported
Unfinished Business	<p>a. Covid 19 updates West Hills Social Commons and West Hills Tennis and Fitness Center are not open. September 14 is the target date for opening these facilities. We are weighing on the comfort level of staff, recommendations from the CDC and governor’s direction. We do not have a tennis pro but are working with the tennis association for lessons for the fall. The long term plan is to hire another pro. The fitness portion will remain closed. We have notified patrons and refunds have been issued. We were approached by the wrestling association to lease the weight room and gym area. Eric Anderson is working on a 1 year lease with them. Greg Posch wanted to confirm that the tennis area target opening date is September 14. Eric said that is the goal and they will have a Covid plan posted. Eric said they are also looking at the hours and will adjust as needed.</p> <p>b. We All Play The design for the building is done. The architect is finishing the rest of the plans this week. The playground at Manthey will be removed at the end of August. The playground at Morehouse will be removed mid-September. The playground from Manthey will be re-installed at Morehouse at the end of September. The walkways should be done this fall and the rest should be installed in the spring of 2021. It has to be 50 degrees for 3 days straight to get the project started in the spring.</p> <p>c. Cross Bows at the Archery Park We had the neighborhood meeting with several people attending. We had a lot opinions on the safety concerns. They discussed some different safety and security measures in order to allow cross bows such as having their own target area, putting in a tunnel, and putting in a mesh tarp to contain the arrows. We will be getting some price quotes on the additional equipment. David Christianson is not in favor of the cross bows. David said he preferred the tunnel that was brought up in order to keep that area separate. David’s biggest concern was that the cross bow can be loaded and you can walk around with it loaded. Angie Malo was upset that a citizen came in who was not a neighbor. She stated he came across very negative and was insulting to a lot of people that attended the meeting. Some of the people that attended the meeting stated they see a lot of mis -use at the facility Angie talked to office staff and an officer and they have not had any calls or complaints about unsafe behavior happening at the Archery Park. People who are down there with cross bows have a lot of investment into it and they are not there practicing being unsafe. David Christianson agreed with some of Angie’s statements, but he did not hear one person give a good reason to have allow cross bows. Troy Klecker understands that safety is the biggest concerns which is why</p>	<p>Troy Klecker reported</p> <p>Tim Truelson reported</p> <p>Troy Klecker reported</p>

	<p>they are investigating options to provide safety measures to allow cross bows. Making our parks handicap accessible is also a goal for all areas including the archery park. Jonathan Douglas agrees cross bows do have more power but there are safety measures that could be put in place to make it possible. Angie Malo knows of one other city that allows crossbows that has a separate area and certain hours that one can use that area. David Christianson confirmed that Bloomington does allow cross bows. Angie Malo would have liked to have seen a council person there to advocate for the city and give their opinion. Troy Klecker was involved in the original location decision for the Archery Park. Summer's Park was a recommendation by the Park Board but council and staff wanted to forgo that location as the city will continue to grow and it will be surrounded by future development. The current location is in a flood plane and does not have any future use for any other park expansion. Troy Klecker suggested there may be another location we could look at to build a separate cross bow park. Jonathan Douglas thought having it at the current park with some safety measures in the place would be best. David Christianson wanted to know if there are cross bow competitions. Dani Licht confirmed there are competitions. Younger people who are not handicap can use cross bows during shot gun season. David Christanson is concerned if there are a lot of people who own cross bows that they will just use the regular targets if the specific cross bow targets are in use. Angie Malo confirmed that people usually only take a few shots just to site in their bows and then they leave. Angie wanted to know if the DNR has to approve the cross bows for our archery hunt or if that was up to each city's discretion. Mary Jo Knutson confirmed we are not required to be ADA compliant as it is a special hunt. Troy Klecker is having staff look into various safety measures and costs to make the project happen. We will continue to discuss at future meetings.</p>	
<p>New Business</p>	<p>a. Fall Programs  We are going to offer a few youth programs this fall. We will have a 1st-6<sup>th</sup> football program with a shortened season and no equipment. Youth Volleyball will run outdoors for 4 weeks in the parks. We did not have enough teams registered for adult kickball. We will not be able to run an adult volleyball program right away due to outside user groups not being allowed in the schools. Eric Anderson stated they are making plans for fall swim lessons. We are currently doing outdoor programs for West Hills Social Commons but are looking for indoor programs if the building opens soon. Mary Jo Knudson stated we are also doing a Park Clean Up Program that has been going over well. Mary Jo Knudson and Jesse Wilker are also working on an Adopt a Park program and hope to start next Spring. Greg Posch would like to get involved in the Adopt a Park program.</p> <p>b. Troy's update  We are working with the police department on getting cameras in Dartt's Park.  Corky's Earlybird tournament has been cancelled for September.</p>	<p>Tim Truelson, Eric Anderson and Mary Jo Knudson reported</p>

Board Questions/ Comments	<p>Angie Malo – Angie is concerned that we are letting the wrestling association use the West Hills Facility. Do we plan to allow other organizations to use the facility? Troy Klecker said we will be wiling to work with other groups as needed.</p> <p>David Christianson – none</p> <p>Jonathan Douglas – none</p> <p>Nicholas Elsner – None</p> <p>Greg Posch – He was concerned about Tom Vizina treating some patrons rudely at Brooktree. Troy Klecker said he will talk to Tom.</p> <p>Eric Anderson-River Springs Water Park closed Aug 16 for open swim, and they are open this week for minimal programming.</p>	
Adjournment	<p>Adjourned at 5:47pm</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, September 14, 2020	