

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

4:30 p.m., Auditorium, Carnegie-Stout Public Library

PRESENT: Robin Kennicker, Ken Klinge, Rebecca Kuhle, Kate Larson and Jennifer Tigges

ABSENT: Richard Kirkendall and Karen Lyness

STAFF PRESENT: Marie Ware, Steve Fehsal and Eileen Trimble

MINUTES APPROVED; VOTE:

It was moved by Klinge, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2017, meeting. Unanimous.

PARK AND RECREATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGETS; VOTE:

Park Division Manager Steve Fehsal and Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware shared an overview of the capital improvement budgets submitted to the City Manager and process for submission.

Commissioner comments / questions: Will there be public input meetings for Comiskey Park development; are there any plans to change or move the Comiskey building; are there security cameras in Eagle Point Park; need drinking fountains at the Pet Park.

Managers Ware / Fehsal responded: ▪ There will be public meetings for Comiskey development after the RFP is advertised and a consultant is hired. ▪ There is nothing planned right now regarding moving the building. ▪ The only security cameras in Eagle Point Park are at the toll booth to monitor money handling procedures. ▪ Two drinking fountains have been purchased for the Pet Park as well as plans in the spring to add benches, expand the concrete area and create a secondary entrance.

Commissioner Kennicker asked about the discussions related to Blum Company property. She suggested putting a greenhouse there because the water, electric and sewer is already in place.

Commissioners asked staff to send them a copy of the capital improvement list showing years projects were first requested.

It was moved by Kennicker, seconded by Klinge, to recommend approval of the Capital Improvement Budget as proposed by staff. Unanimous.

PARK DIVISION REPORT:

Park Division Manager Steve Fehsal reported:

- Skate Park project: RFP for engineering, design and construction management services went out; two proposals were received and a recommendation for a consultant has been made.
- Highway 20 Landscape Assessment: RFP for Highway 20 landscape assessment went out for the corridor from Locust Street to Cherokee Drive. The project includes evaluation of all the plantings, grasses and trees, soil assessment and creation of a design plan. Five proposals were received and a recommendation for a consultant has been made.
- Eagle Point Restoration: The plan has been adopted and several grants have been received for the restoration project. Two other grants are outstanding at this time. An RFP will be prepared once know outcome of grants.
- Snow removal locations: Manager Fehsal distributed a list of locations where division takes care of snow and ice removal. There are many areas that are not actual parks.
- Staff are working on winterizing park facilities.
- Hillcrest Family Services is setting up displays for their Reflections in the Park at Murphy Park.

JOINT PUBLIC HEARING WITH TRANSIT BOARD -- Review Roundabout Project related to Allison-Henderson Park; VOTE:

Nate Kieffer and Jon Dienst from the Engineering Department along with Candace Eudaley, Transit Manager and members of the Transit Board were present for the public hearing related to the North Grandview Avenue roundabout near Allison-Henderson Park and moving of transit transfer station to Allison-Henderson. Kieffer and Dienst presented detailed information about the project. The City plans on adding a roundabout at North Grandview and University Avenues.

As presented the impact on the park will be minimal. The sledding and play areas of the park will not be impacted. Projected schedule is to begin when school is out and complete the project before school begins again in the fall.

Commissioner questions: How will the roundabout affect the fire station vehicles coming and going; will there be security cameras; how will the roundabout be landscaped?

Kieffer and Dienst responded: ▪ There will be signs with flashing LED lights so if the Fire Department is coming out of the station in a hurry or backing vehicles into the station, people will know to stop. Fire Department will be able to access the sign lights from their vehicles and turn on if necessary. ▪ There will be cameras at the roundabout and they will also help monitor traffic. ▪ Staff will work with designer and parks staff on the landscaping.

There will be another public meeting November 30th at 5:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

It was moved by Klinge, seconded by Kennicker, to recommend approval of the plan presented. Unanimous.

RECREATION DIVISION REPORT:

Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware reported:

- Staff is working on Winter/Spring brochure.
- Golf course is winding down; last day for golfing is Sunday, November 19. Fall weather was nice this year so there was good traffic at the course.

MANAGER REPORT:

- Creek Wood Park RFP for construction and engineering services went out to bid; four proposals were received. The committee meets next week to review. The consultant would take the project from construction to construction inspections and in between take care of bid documents, etc.
- The Blum property site in Lower Bee Branch by 16th / 15th Streets on the west side of the railroad tracks is going through the process of remediation, testing soil samples, etc. The City will continue soliciting feedback, applying for grants and doing environmental cleanup over a several year process.

Commissioners asked to have information and/or a website link related to the Blum property sent to them so they could view all the current information and follow progress.

ADJOURN; VOTE:

It was moved by Kennicker, seconded by Klinge, to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. Unanimous.