

CITY OF PELICAN RAPIDS PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 30, 2007
8:30 a.m.

The City of Pelican Rapids Park Board held its regular meeting at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 30, 2007, Council Chambers, City Hall, 315 N Broadway. Board Chairman Mel Zierke, Board Members, Jessica Toftely, Denise Magnusson, Cary Johnson, and Ross Wamre were present. Street and Park Superintendent Brian Olson, City Administrator Don Solga and Secretary Kristi Skramstad were also present.

Board Members Becky Benhardus and Sandy Irej were absent.

New Park Board Members Ross Wamre and Cary Johnson were introduced.

Appointment of Chairman for 2007-2008

Denise Magnusson made a motion to appoint Mel Zierke to serve as Chairman for 2007-2008. Ross Wamre seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of December 19, 2006 Minutes

Denise Magnusson made a motion to approve the December 19, 2006 minutes. Ross Wamre seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Additions to Agenda:

Skating Rink, Early Childhood Initiative Playground Project, Tweeton/Lyden Land, Air Conditioner at Historic City Hall, Pictures of Pelican Pete, Y Monument, Pelican Pete Slippery When Wet Sign.

Council Actions since December 19, 2006 Meeting:

Brian Olson stated that the Council approved further exploration of leasing the land near Sherin Park from Trinity Lutheran Church. We had an agreement with them that expired in 1989. Brian will approach Trinity Lutheran Church regarding a new agreement. Making the agreement perpetual was discussed.

The Council did not approve the arch lighting project for Historic City Hall. They did not favor any drilling into the exterior of the building which would be needed to secure the arches and provide for electricity. Christmas decorations for next year were also discussed.

DNR Grant:

Brian Olson reported that due to lack of funding no applications were being accepted in 2007. The bridges and culverts in the River Park area were discussed. Don Solga stated he had spoke with the county to replace the culvert bridge and then City Council would be making a decision at that point.

Hamburger Helper Grant – Brian Olson:

Brian Olson stated he did not have an update on the Hamburger Helper Grant. Members are reminded to go to their website www.myhometownhelper.com and post comments about getting the money for new hockey boards.

Pelican Rapids Apartment Land - Don Solga:

Don Solga stated that he has not yet heard from the new owners of this land. He has written to them and also spoke to them. Last he heard they were going to bring the idea to their board meeting and get back to us. Kristi Skramstad will get Don their name and address and he will write another letter to them.

Y- Monument Update – Don Solga:

The estimates have been sent to the Historical Society. Waiting for a response.

Pelican Pete Slippery When Wet Sign:

Mel Zierke stated he would like to again discuss last month's decision to block off the entrance to Pelican Pete when the area becomes slippery instead of placing a sign. Getting a sign with a picture instead of wording was discussed. Ross Wamre and Brian Olson agreed to look into finding an appropriate sign.

Skate Park Letter:

Kristi Skramstad stated she sent Brandon Bakken a letter thanking him for his suggestions and inviting him to be the Skate Park Committee Chairman. To date we have not received a response from him.

Historic City Hall Agreement – Brian Olson:

Brian Olson provided a copy of the current agreement between the Chamber of Commerce and the City Council. Don Solga stated that since Pelican Rapids is designated as a State Tourist Information Center that the building needs to be open. He also stated that the Council has requested someone from the Chamber of Commerce Board attend the Council meeting on January 30, 2007 to present their plan for having the building open. This issue will be revisited at the February Park Board meeting.

Historic City Hall Basement:

Brian Olson reported that he now has a key to the basement. The air conditioner that is stored there belongs to the Chamber of Commerce as it was donated to them by a Chamber member when they were located in the log building.

Chair Project:

Twenty nine chairs have been located. They are upstairs in Historic City Hall. Mel Zierke said he would be able to spray them on a Monday in March. Cary Johnson showed the spray polyurethane he uses on his bench and it has preserved it nicely. Cary volunteered to help Mel with the spraying of the chairs.

Swimming Pool Policy – Brian Olson:

Brian Olson presented a draft of the job description for lifeguards. He asked members to review and bring comments to the February meeting. The Aquatics Director position was also discussed. Brian Olson stated that position is opened for applications and rehired each year.

Pelican Pete Pictures – Mel Zierke:

Mel explained that Mayor Runnigen has asked about making a Pelican Pete display in Historic City Hall. Kristi Skramstad will put an article in the next newsletter asking people to bring any picture to City Hall so they can be scanned.

David Brown Soccer Field Sign:

The David Brown Soccer Field sign vandalism was discussed. Mel has pictures. Brian Olson stated he will get it repaired.

Skating Rink – Brian Olson:

Brian Stated the skating rink is up and running and is well used this winter. He stated he has discussed with Trevor Steeves moving the rink to Chauncey Martin Field parking lot

next winter. He stated ease of flooding as the reason for the move. Trevor Steeves could bring the idea to the school board. A tanker truck could be used to flood the rink next year to see how it works before installing a hydrant. The warming house would also need to be put on wheels which would cost around \$1,500. The idea of moving the rink was discussed.

Denise Magnusson made a motion for Brain Olson to further pursue moving the skating rink. Cary Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Early Childhood Initiative Playground Project:

A letter requesting donations for safer playground equipment for E.L Peterson Park from the Early Childhood Initiative Playground committee was reviewed. The condition of the playground was discussed.

Denise Magnusson made a motion to donate in-kind labor for removal of the old park metal jungle gym and wooden tire swing if new equipment is acquired by the Early Childhood Initiative. Ross Wamre seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Kristi Skramstad will draft a letter to them.

Other Park Board Items:

Mel Zierke questioned what the official name of the river park area near the library and senior center is. Kristi Skramstad will research and report back at the February meeting.

Mel Zierke updated the new members on the Park Board's responsibilities. The 3-5 year plan and check list were reviewed and updated. See them for changes.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Kristi Skramstad
Park Board Secretary