

PARK BOARD MINUTES FEBRUARY 24, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Kate. Park board members present were Kate, Judi, Amy, Amber, and Miriam. Brian was also present.

Additions were made to the agenda. Summer Movie Night and Sunday soccer League. Deletion of land next to old laundromat.

Motion made and carried to approve the minutes from the January meeting.

Additional persons present for discussion on the brown soccer field development and the Sunday soccer league were John Peter as well as members of the developing board for the Sunday league Rudy, Norbert, and Mayo. John came with a prepared packet for the possible future development of the field. He states that he has been approached by parties interested in donating funds for this purpose. These development ideas include bleachers and a building to use for storing equipment, concessions, and an area for coaches to meet with their teams during events. Brian will get an estimate from the city engineer on this project.

The Sunday soccer league started about 15 years ago. It has grown to 15 teams this year. They are now managing this with a board headed by Rudy Martinez. The cost for participation per team is \$1000. The league is planning to contribute a large portion of this money to development of the field. The Park Board gave unanimous support for this, Amy will draft a letter of support to present to the council and John will be presenting the packet to them.

Brian gave an update on the skating rink. It continues to be open and going well with an average of 18 skaters per day.

Update on the grant for Peterson Park Playground. The grant application is extensive and Amy, Kate, and Brian will sit down together and get it completed.

The location of the bike trail head was discussed. The park board is in favor of pursuing the purchase of the Gabarkewitz property as a possibility for this. This lot would lead bikers to downtown area as well as be a great location for launching canoes and kayaks which would make it appealing for a large number of residents and tourists. The Board supports up to \$16,500 as a price to submit to the council for this.

Update on pool progress. Kate and Amy are going to address the bonding committee at the State Capital on February 27, 2020 with a request for funds.

New Soccer nets for Thompson Field were discussed. Brian states that they get new nets every other year and this is the year they will be new.

Signage for the Peace Trail was discussed. The rotary is in favor of the park board collaborating with them on the further development of this trail. Steve Foster has volunteered his service to make a metal archway sign for the entrance to the trail if the metal is provided. Amy will address the Rotary regarding this.

Summer movie night was addressed. If we want to work with Fergus Falls on this it is time to let them know. Motion was made and carried to have movie nights again this summer as they were well attended last summer in spite of the mosquito problems.

Motion to adjourn meeting made and carried at 6:00 PM. Next meeting date will be March 30, 2020 at 5:00 PM at the city hall.

Submitted by Judith Engebretson, recorder