

CITY OF PELICAN RAPIDS PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 26, 2008

8:30 a.m.

The City of Pelican Rapids Park Board held its regular meeting at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, August 26, 2008, Council Chambers, City Hall, 315 N Broadway. Board Members, Cary Johnson, Sandy Irey and Mel Zierke were present. City Administrator Don Solga, Street and Park Superintendent Brian Olson and Secretary Kristi Skramstad were present. Brenda Brand and Library Director Annie M Wrigg and Ashley Phan were also present.

Board Members Ross Wamre and Denise Magnusson were absent.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mel Zierke.

Ashley Phan withdrew her Student Park Board Member application. She is moving to Washington in September 2008. She may be returning to the area next summer and was encouraged to check with us to see if we are in need of members at that time. Chairman Mel Zierke thanked her for her application.

Sandy Irey made a motion to approve the July 29, 2008 minutes. Cary Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Additions / Deletions to Agenda: Flower Planters – Sandy Irey
Ross Wamre Resignation
David Brown Soccer Field
E.L. Peterson Park Signage

Council Actions: None

Sandy Irey made a motion to amend the July 29, 2008 minutes. The cost to do a survey of Sherin Park campground is \$15,000 not \$1,500. Cary Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Student Members:

Three applications were received. One application has been withdrawn. Discussion on applications.

Cary Johnson made a motion to recommend to Council that Sally Huynh and Mikayla Jensen be appointed as Student Park Board Members. Sandy Irey seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Area By Liquor Store:

Members commented on how nice the area is looking. Sandy Irey checked with Oktoberfest and there is not enough money to contribute to this project at this time. Mel suggested there may be funds available after Oktoberfest 2008. Discussion. Kristi Skramstad will draft a letter to Tammy Magnusson requesting funds for the brick flag pole columns. Mel will sign the letter.

Pool Update:

Brian Olson reported that the pool will be closing on Friday, August 29 for the season. He stated it has been a fantastic year. The pool was very busy. He hopes to hire the same pool manager for next season. Don Solga said they are working on a Pool Policy for next season.

BBQ Pits - Rotary:

Mel presented 4 pictures of the BBQ pits. Brenda Brand expressed concern regarding the safety issues of the BBQ pits. She has seen several instances where kids are running and playing on top of the BBQ pits and the tops are not that sturdy. Mel Zierke stated that Rotary was sent a letter inviting them to the Park Board meeting and was disappointed that no members were present today. Mel has done some research and said it cost about \$4,000 to build the pits many years ago. He thinks they are 54” long and they do have a substantial base of cement. Liability issues were discussed. Discussion on having insurance company, safety inspector or brick expert inspect the pits. Discussion that Rotary’s involvement on this project is important. Don Solga said he would e-mail Greg Larson, Rotary President to follow up on the letter

Antique Store Sign:

Don Solga reported and that he stopped by and visited with the store manager. She did not have an agreement for us to consider at this time. Owner is very concerned about damage to bricks during the process of removing the sign and who would be responsible should any bricks be damaged. Discussion on leaving the sign in place and having it repainted. Brenda Brand suggested having a new skin made and having it installed over the top of the existing sign, like is done with billboards. Brian Olson said he would check into that idea. Item will be on September agenda.

220 Electricity:

Don Solga reported that the Chamber of Commerce is interested in getting another quote. They feel \$800 is high. As soon as Brian gets another quote he will contact Julie Siehl to get item on Chamber’s meeting agenda. Don Solga recalls that the discussion was that the City would pay one-third, the Chamber would pay one-third and the Shake Shack would pay one- third. Don felt the quote was reasonable considering the work to be done. Mel Zierke asked about getting 220 in Sherin Park. Brian will contact Otter Tail Power and have them locate the nearest 220 power source in Sherin Park. Discussion on where it would be best used for Art in the Park. Don Solga will talk to Cyndy Stotesbery, Art in the Park Chairperson.

At this time Brenda Brand excused herself from the meeting. She announced she is leaving her position at the Chamber at the end of the month and said she has enjoyed working with the Park Board. She is going to recommend to her replacement that they attend the Park Board meetings. Mel Zierke thanked Brenda for her contributions to the Park Board.

E.L. Peterson Park Signs:

Brian still needs to talk to MnDot. Item on September agenda.

David Brown Soccer Field:

David Brown will be out of the country for the next year. Brian has received an email from David Brown and the Street and Park Department will continue to take care of the soccer field. The school will do the striping when there are home games. Thompson Park soccer field was also discussed. The players have gotten better at cleaning up their garbage. Discussion on grounds repair. When time comes signage will be put up telling players to stay off the grounds until such a time when the grass grows back under the nets. Brian expressed that steady maintenance on both fields is needed to keep the fields in good condition.

Ross Wamre Resignation:

Chairman Zierke presented a letter of resignation from Ross Wamre.

Sandy Irely made a motion to recommend to Council to accept Ross Wamre’s resignation from the Park Board. Cary Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on finding a new member. Kristi will put in City Newsletter and members were asked to think about people who might be interested in serving on the Park Board.

Flower Planters:

Sandy Irely reported that she has contacted Mary Nelson. Sandy will be working with Mary to choose plants for next year’s planters.

The welcome to Pelican Rapids signs on Hwy 108 East and West were discussed. Sandy Irely said Oktoberfest did not designate any funds to plant shrubs or plants. They have not appointed anyone to keep those areas weeded. Brian Olson stated that his part time summer helper Kate Woolever did weed and plant some wild flowers under the sign. Brian will see if there are funds to put plant more things.

Budget Items:

Don reported that the following capital items are in the budgeting process for next year:

Weed/chemical Sprayer	\$1,500
Pool Filter	\$3,500
Concrete Repair – pool	\$2,000
Veterans’ Memorial River Park 3 rd year grant match	\$6,500
Veterans’ Memorial River Park – bridge abutments	\$2,000
Windmill Steps – 3 rd year	\$3,000
Picnic Tables	
Library & Senior Parking – 3 rd year	\$1,000

Paint Windmill	\$2,000
220 Electricity	\$ 300
Historic City Hall Lighting	\$4,000

Mel wondered if the garbage cans in the parks will be replaced. He has noticed they are getting grey. Brian stated those would be replaced as they need be. Not a capital budget item.

Mel asked about installing the flag poles on the Mill Pond dam. Brian said nothing has been budgeted at this time. He needs to check with the DNR to make sure it is alright to place flag poles there. The flower beds were also discussed. The timbers are rotting. Brian said they would have to be done one by one and would like to use 6-8" block. Brian said some of the soil in the beds on the top should also be replaced. His department will do the work. Mel would like to see this item added to the budget. Mel also suggested it might be a good request to submit to Oktoberfest. Brian will get pricing together.

Cary Johnson thanked Brian and the Street and Park Department for their assistance with his family in placing a park bench in honor of their 40th wedding anniversary. He said it is very nice and appreciates it very much.

Chairman Zierke adjourned the meeting at 9:44 am.

Kristi Skramstad
Park Board Secretary