

APRIL 21, 2015 PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES CITY OF EDGERTON

Chairperson Mark Wellnitz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Committee members present were Mark Wellnitz, Dave Thomas, Ken Haagensen, Bonnie Slagg and Russell Jorstad. Greg Reirson and Denise Langan were excused. Also present were City Administrator Ramona Flanigan, Public Works Director Tom Hartzell, Aquatics Director Anne Gohlke, Representatives from the Baseball/Softball organizations and Kevin Gerhke.

Flanigan confirmed that the meeting agendas were posted on Friday, April 17, 2015 at BMO Harris Bank, the Post Office, Edgerton Library and City Hall.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A Haagensen/Thomas motion to approve the March 18, 2015 Parks & Recreation Committee meeting minutes passed, all voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REMOVAL OF SOD ON SOFTBALL FIELD:

Daryl Fox requested permission to take 15 feet of sod off the JV girls softball diamond. This would facilitate baseball tournaments and games that require a longer base path. This would make the diamond more universal. The baseball club would build a pitching mound and then remove it after each game. Mike Redman spoke for the girls softball association. He is concerned with a possible scheduling conflict. They use that diamond for practices and games. Daryl Fox could not make the meeting. A Haagensen/Wellnitz motion to table the motion until everyone involved could get together passed. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER CREATING A TRACK FOR LAWN MOWER RACES AT RTP:

This track would be used during Tobacco Heritage Days. Kevin Gehrke distributed a map of the proposed track. They would like to utilize the grass area by the tractor pull track. A Wellnitz/Slagg motion to approve creating a track for lawn mower races at Racetrack Park during Tobacco Days weekend passed. (See attached map)

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER POLICY FOR USE RESTRICTIONS FOR CASH DONATIONS OR DONATED PARK IMPROVEMENTS:

With the funds being collected for sign advertising at Racetrack Park a policy needs to be established as to what restrictions will be allowed when accepting any cash donations or donated park improvements. The council will be considering a comprehensive policy, this would just be a subset of that policy. Staff is recommending that any donation be utilized for the benefit of the public. The city will generally not accept donations to the public that have restricted use for specific groups or subsets. The City reserves the right to make restrictions for a donated item if the restriction is required for public purpose such as public safety. The committee adopted the following policy: Donations to the City should be utilized to benefit the public. The City will generally not accept donations to the public that have restricted use for specific groups or subsets. The City reserves the right to make restrictions for a donated item if the restriction is required for a public purpose (such as public safety).

A Wellnitz/Haagensen motion to approve the policy regulating restrictions placed on donated funds or donated equipment passed on a 5/0 roll call vote.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER POLICY FOR USE RESTRICTION FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS PURCHASED USING FEES.

Fees paid for advertising at Racetrack Park are not donated funds. The staff recommends that the City continue to administer the advertising program and decide how the funds are to be used throughout Racetrack Park. Any improvements made with the funds are to be available to the public and not restricted to use by certain group.

A Wellnitz/Haagensen motion to approve the policy for use restrictions for park improvements purchased using fees as stated in previous minutes in addition the funds not be restricted to use by certain groups passed on a 5/0 roll call vote.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RACETRACK PARK ROAD PLANS:

The project will start immediately after Tobacco Heritage Days. One of things the committee needs to discuss is the east parking lot near IKI Dr. The proposed parking lot has 32 parking stalls. This should accommodate average weekend use. This lot could be expanded at an increased cost. Wellnitz expressed concern if the parking lot were too small people will drive up over the curb.

There is not enough room for another baseball batting cage adjacent to the existing one due to the new road. The softball cages are fine on the outside of the outfield fence of the Varsity field. The baseball group is recommending putting the new batting cage between the JV girls softball and the Babe Ruth diamond. Most of the athletes using the batting cages would be using the large ball diamond. Mark recommended putting it on the other end of the outfield fence of the little league diamond. Mark asked for the diamonds to be staked out for the bus tour.

Tom Hartzell wanted to discuss removing the entire fence along IKI Dr. and the rail road track. The fence is in need of repair and serves no purpose. The Lion's club requested temporary fencing for their event due to the fact they charge an entrance fee.

A Wellnitz/Thomas motion to remove the fence along IKI Dr. and along the rail road tracks passed. All voted in favor.

A Wellnitz/Slagg motion to include paving the west parking lot with an extension as an alternate in the bid, to also modify the original alternate to include digging out and fixing the existing gravel west lot passed on a 5/0 roll call vote.

Mel Simmons reported that the netting for the Babe Ruth diamond will cost less than expected. The ball club will not need any funds to construct the batting cages. They have raised the funds on their own. Mel wanted to propose the money saved should go toward the girls softball batting cages so they can get their own batting cages. The committee will look at the numbers more closely and discuss this at the next meeting.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER USE OF PARK DEVELOPMENT FEES:

There is \$36,265 in the Park improvement impact fee account and \$9,837 in the park land impact fee account. The improvements fund can be used for capital improvements in the parks but cannot be used to address a deficiency that currently exists. If the city uses it for a park improvement that is the only one in the system, we can use the impact fund to pay 1/3 of the cost. If the city puts additional equipment similar to what we have already, the entire project can be funded with the impact fees. It cannot be used for operating expenses or maintenance. The committee will need to keep these funds in mind during the bus tour to the parks.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER BENCH TYPES FOR PARKS

Tom Hartzell presented some options for benches. He recommends 3-4 additional benches be placed in Central Park and Racetrack park near the play equipment. His suggestion is to go with the same type of benches currently there. They are rubber coated and are about \$500 each. These benches could be paid for with impact fees.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER SWING SET AT CENTRAL PARK

The current swing sets we have will not accept the ADA swings that were ordered. We need to order a new swing set to accommodate these seats. Tom would like to make some playground equipment changes at RTP. Tom and Mark would like to see one swing at RTP and Central Park. More will be discussed on the bus tour.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Tom reported that we had an issue with the netting at the ball diamonds. A cable snapped. He is trying to come up with a solution. His department is just getting ready for summer activity and getting the pool ready to open.

POOL DIRECTORS REPORT:

Anne has all her applications in and hopes to have her staff together soon. RTP concession stand has been open now for a few games. There are some repairs that need to be made in the pool.

NEXT MEETING DATE & AGENDA ITEMS

Bus Tour-May 12th at 5:30. Next meeting May 27, 2015 at 5:30. Items to be discussed are swings, benches and baseball field.

Being no other business before the Committee, a Wellnitz/Thomas motion to adjourn passed, all voted in favor.

Tom Hartzell/wjl
Public Works Director