

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

APRIL 9, 2007

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Carlson opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Committee Members present: Chair Terry Carlson, Vice Chair Eugene Earney, Brad Schnitzler, Kristi Uphoff, Planning Commission Liaison Scott Marotz, Council Liaison Patricia May and Denise McDowall Seyko (arrived at 6:15 p.m.).

Also Present: Public Works Director Michael Goebel.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member Schnitzler motioned to accept the February 12, 2007 minutes as presented. Seconded by Committee Member Earney, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3A. REVIEW SKATE BOARD PARK

Public Works Director Goebel distributed a handout listing the quotes that were received from the bid opening on April 5, 2007. Five bid specs were sent out to five different companies and a bid notice was placed in the West Sherburne Tribune. Three bids were received – Earl F. Anderson: Skate Wave equipment @ \$102,430.64, American Ramp Company: ARC equipment @ \$100,724.61 and St. Croix Recreation Company: SOLO equipment @ \$114,974.49 with low bidder being American Ramp Company: ARC equipment @ \$100,724.61. Discussion followed regarding the difference in companies, location of companies and past experience with them. It was noted that the specs required a minimum 15 year warranty with American Ramp Company offering a 20 year warranty. The funding for the skate board equipment and fencing will come from the regional park fund. Once these items are paid for there will be approximately \$50,000.00 left in the regional park fund. Public Works Director Goebel stated that Earl F. Anderson and American Ramp Company will also host an open house for the Skate Board Park with a demonstration by a professional skate boarder and donate free prizes at an approximate value of \$3,000.00. Discussion continued regarding the fencing and how much of the Skate Board Park to enclose. Prices for both galvanized and vinyl coated fences were discussed. Committee Member Schnitzler made a motion to recommend to City Council to accept low bid from American Ramp Company: ARC equipment in the amount of \$100,724.61. Seconded by Council Liaison May, unanimous ayes, motion carried. Committee Member Carlson made a motion to recommend to City Council to fence the

entire Skate Board Park with galvanized fence. Seconded by Committee Member Earney, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3B. INFORMATION ON FISHING PIER GRANT

Public Works Director Goebel contacted the DNR regarding the Fishing Pier Grant that was applied for on Mitchell Lake. There are no grants being offered this year by the DNR due to lack of funds. The Grant will be forwarded to next year for their consideration. Public Works Director Goebel also contacted Representatives from the Chad Judge Fishing Contest. They are also looking into grants from businesses. The approximate cost of the fishing pier is \$25,000.00. Public Works Director Goebel has also made numerous attempts to contact Stillwater Prison where the pier's are made but has been unsuccessful to reach someone.

3C. COUNTY ROAD 81 PROJECTS

The City Council approved the recommendations from the Park Advisory Committee in regards to County Road 81 improvements. A response letter was received from the Sherburne County Public Works Department stating their plan includes grading a 10' trail bed immediately adjacent to the curb on the west side of County Road 81, starting just north of the intersection for the frontage road to the bus garage and extending north to 206th Avenue.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Committee Member Earney inquired if we would have trails/sidewalks in the new proposed annexation area located by the Monticello River Inn when it is being developed. If the trail system was planned now it could connect to the River Corridor Trail and also a trail connecting north to south. The Parks Advisory Committee would like to be involved in the planning stage of development.

Committee Member Schnitzler has been working with the County on County Road 43. Committee Member Schnitzler needed to document and present to the County all areas of sidewalks and trails that students use to walk to the schools. With the budget cuts for the schools, bus rides could possibly be cut within a one mile radius of schools. Committee Member Schnitzler has been working with the County to try to get County Road 43 a school safety zone. Committee Member Schnitzler noted the area's where the trails/sidewalks do not connect. This becomes a safety issue when students are walking to school. Public Works Director Goebel will try to incorporate these ideas when the new City Intern, Sam Woods starts working on the trail grants.

Public Works Director Goebel will work on having the engineering draft layout of the proposed Athletic Complex to present at the next Committee Meeting.

Council Liaison May updated the Committee on Council's workshop with the Becker – Big Lake Hockey Association. At this time the Hockey Association has not made a definite choice of where they would like the location. This creates difficulty for commitment from the various cities and townships represented. The Hockey Association has expressed interest and the positive aspects on the Highway 10 location in Big Lake. Funding is still an issue. The Hockey Association is also interested in splitting the building expense with the various communities involved. The Hockey Association is waiting on the County's feasibility report. Committee Member Earney requested the Parks Advisory Committee receive a copy of the County's feasibility report when it is received by the City. The Hockey Association was encouraged to select the location for the rink and then come back to a workshop.

Committee Member McDowall Seyko has extended her stay on the Big Lake Spud Fest Board. She expressed great appreciation to the Big Lake Public Works Department for their past help. Fees for the use of the grounds have increased from \$3,000.00 to \$5,000.00 which has created a hardship for the Spud Fest Committee financially. Committee Member McDowall Seyko expressed their desire to use the Athletic Complex when it is completed for the Spud Fest.

Committee Member Carlson inquired if the wood under the swing sets get replaced. Public Works Director Goebel stated they do when needed.

Committee Member Carlson inquired if the cub scouts will be taking care of the bird houses on McDowall Trail this year. Public Works Director Goebel has not heard from the cub scouts but is assuming so.

It was noted that people are driving too fast through Prairie Meadow Park. Public Works Director Goebel will check to see if there are signs already posted in the area.

5. STAFF UPDATE - None

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. ADJOURN

Committee Member McDowall Seyko motioned to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Carlson, unanimous ayes, motion carried.