

FARIBAULT PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES FOR JANUARY 22, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lola Brand, Sally Kramer, Chad Kreager, Elsie Slinger and Cheryl Sterling. MEMBERS ABSENT: Rahma Abdi, Bruce Krinke and Troy Temple. STAFF PRESENT: Director Paul Peanasky and Administrative Assistant Denise Hansen.

- 1) Meeting was called to order by Lola at 6:10 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Elsie, seconded by Sally to approve minutes of October 23, 2019. Motion passed.
- 3) Director's Report:
 - a) Cheryl Sterling: Board and Paul thanked Cheryl for 18 years of service to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Paul presented Cheryl with a blanket in recognition of her years of service from 2002 to 2020.
 - b) Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC): Paul presented an invitation to the Board to attend an HPC meeting on February 3 at 6:00 p.m. at Buckham West to discuss statewide and local historic preservation plans.
- 4) Requests to be Heard: None.
- 5) Old Business:
 - a) Parks Master Plan: Master Plan was approved by City Council on December 22. Parks and Recreation Staff, along with Dave Wanberg, will now begin to plan steps including financing to implement the plan.
 - b) Mural on Band Shell – West Wall: Nothing new to report.
 - c) Inclusive Playground: Paul stated he has sent invitations for an inclusive playground meeting on Thursday, January 30, at 6:00 p.m. at Buckham West. Flagship Recreation will be present to discuss inclusive play options. Paul asked for a volunteer from the Board to be on the committee. Lola volunteered to serve on the committee.
 - d) Mill Towns Trail/Northern Links Trail: Paul indicated he was informed to wait a year to apply for the TAP grant for the trail. Waiting would allow time to get agreements with the railroad and DNR prior to applying for the grant.
 - e) Tunnel Lighting, Signage & Painting: Xcel Energy has installed a meter for the lighting in the tunnel and plans are to install the lights in Spring 2020.
 - f) Old Public Works Park Layout: City received an \$800,000+ grant from Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for cleanup for the proposed park and apartment building sites at the old Public Works site on 1st Avenue NE. Per estimates for cleanup, the City will need to finance approximately \$300,000 to complete cleanup. The apartment building presently proposed would have 114 units, and the developer is currently working to finalize financing.
 - g) Boards and Commission Recruitment: Nothing new to report.

6) New Business:

- a) Prairie Park Concepts: Board reviewed and discussed the three concept plans for development of Prairie Park. Board would like it to include a large playground area since it is more than a neighborhood park. Board discussed concern about having ample toilets, lights from the ball fields affecting nearby residents and balls being hit into nearby backyards. Paul stated there would not be lights on the ball fields. Board suggested moving the two fields to the north side of the park to avoid balls being hit towards neighbors' backyards. Board asked if two fields were enough if Teepee Tonka Park would no longer have ballfields. Paul stated he spoke with David Pribbenow, Youth Baseball Coordinator, and he indicated three fields would be nice but they could get by with two. Chad stated he would like to see three fields as well but also liked the flexibility of the two fields so the park can include other amenities. Boards discussed possibility of using Middle School fields and/or fields at North Alexander Park. Also, the Baseball Association would like fields built by Bell Field at North Alexander Park so that is a possibility. Paul stated Field 1 at Teepee Tonka Park gets the least damage when it floods so it might be possible to continue to use just Field 1 at Teepee Tonka Park. Board also asked if any land is available near Prairie Park for another field. Paul was not aware of anything available. After discussion, Board agreed to support Site Concept Plan B with two baseball fields. Motion was made by Elsie, seconded by Cheryl to approve Site Concept B for Prairie Park development with suggestions of rotating the baseball fields to the north part of the lot with the open space to the south, locate the trail around the outside of the park rather than through it and include a large playground area as well as sufficient toilets. Motion passed.
- b) Parkland Village Park Options: Motion made by Cheryl, seconded by Chad to approve the parkland dedication for Parkland Estates as presented in the original development plan in 2004. Motion passed.
- c) New Board Member: Mike Ross is the newly appointed Parks and Recreation Board member beginning in February. Mike will fill the vacancy left by Cheryl Sterling.
- d) Pollinator Group: The GROWS Pollinator Group is putting up displays in the corridor between the Community Center and the Library to promote pollinator gardens. They are also doing projects around the city to promote the gardens.

7) Other:

- a) Bike Trails: Lola asked for an update on the bike trails that CROCT was constructing in the city. Paul stated CROCT is still working with Shattuck-St. Mary's to construct a trail on their property by the river. They are also still working on the trail at Spring Park. CROCT decided not to construct a trail at Teepee Tonka Park due to the flooding in that area.

8) Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

9) Motion was made by Cheryl, seconded by Elsie to adjourn at 7:04 p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Hansen, Administrative Assistant