

FARIBAULT PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 24, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lola Brand, Sally Kramer, Mike Ross, Henry Schonebaum, Elsie Slinger, Troy Temple and Janna Viscomi. MEMBERS ABSENT: Chad Kreager. STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Tim Murray, Parks and Recreation Director Paul Peanasky and Administrative Assistant Denise Hansen. GUESTS: Donna and Russ Bauer, Faribault Farmers' Market.

- 1) Meeting was called to order by Troy at 5:59 p.m.
- 2) Swearing in of New Board Members: Tim Murray, City Administrator, swore in Sally Kramer and Henry Schonebaum as reappointed Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members.
- 3) Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Mike, seconded by Sally to approve minutes of January 27, 2021. Motion passed.
- 4) Welcome New Member: Board welcomed new member, Janna Viscomi, as City Council Representative appointed to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.
- 5) Farmers' Market Presentation: Donna and Russ Bauer presented a recap of the 2020 Farmers' Market season with restrictions due to COVID. Some vendors opted not to come in 2020. Wash stations were required by the State of Minnesota and Rice County Public Health purchased three (3) of them for the Farmers' Market. Russ and Donna anticipate getting an update regarding 2021 restrictions closer to June but until then, they plan to open with the same restrictions as when they ended the season in 2020. Crafters weren't allowed by the State of Minnesota at Farmer's Markets until into the season and then some opted not to come when they were allowed. Overall, attendance was very good and some said 2020 was their best year ever. The Farmers' Market begins the first Saturday in June and ends the last Saturday in October. They also begin Wednesday hours the first Wednesday in July and end sometime in September depending on produce availability. Hours are 7:00 AM to noon on Saturdays and 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM on Wednesdays. In the past, they have tried staying until 7:00 PM but did not have customers after 5:00 PM. Board discussed food trucks at the market. Russ and Donna stated they do not have a conflict with food trucks. Food trucks require a seasonal food license and Board agreed that food trucks should not compete with vendors such as bakers at the market. Russ and Donna have been organizing the Farmers' Market for approximately 30 years. Board thanked them for all they do and for coming to the meeting.
- 6) Election of Officers:
 - a. Chair: Motion made by Troy, seconded by Mike to nominate Chad Kreager as Chair. Motion passed.
 - b. Vice Chair: Motion made by Mike, seconded by Elsie to nominate Henry as Vice Chair. Motion passed.
- 7) Director's Report:
 - a) TAP Grant: Paul reported that the city was awarded a TAP Grant in the amount of \$622,000 to complete the trail from North Alexander Park to Hulett Avenue. The city

- requested \$712,000 but after speaking with the City Engineer and City Administrator, it was determined that we could subsidize the balance with local funds so the grant was accepted. The grant is for fiscal year 2025 but the city will likely proceed with construction in 2023. This would require the city to pay costs initially and then get reimbursed in 2025. The city will apply for FRTP and local trail grants to supplement additional costs.
- b) Central Park Request: Anytime Fitness contacted Paul and requested to use Central Park on Saturday mornings in the month of May to offer outdoor aerobics classes. Motion made by Elsie, second by Sally to approve use of Central Park by Anytime Fitness with all fees waived. Motion passed.
 - c) Viaduct Area Park Planning Task Force: City Council will appoint members to the Viaduct Area Park Planning Task Force at its next meeting. The Task Force will include Kelly Nygaard of the Chamber of Commerce/Main Street Committee, Kymn Anderson of the Faribault Foundation, Mike Richie of the Vision and Master Planning Committee, Sally Kramer and Elsie Slinger of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, two appointed City Council members, City Administrator Tim Murray, City Planner Dave Wanberg and Parks & Recreation Director Paul Peanasky. The task force will start meeting in early April. Paul noted that the Faribault Foundation has offered to help fundraise for the park.
 - d) Teepee Tonka Park Improvements: City Council approved Teepee Tonka Park improvements at their last Council meeting. Improvements include constructing a new shelter and extending the fence.
- 8) Requests to be Heard: None.
- 9) Old Business:
- a) Inclusive Playground: Paul listed various nearby cities who have inclusive playgrounds. Paul will plan a tour to visit four or five of them.
 - b) Mill Towns Trail/Northern Links Trail: Update previously reported under item 7a.
 - c) Old Public Works Site Park Site: Paul shared a map of the latest version of the park plan. The plan will go to Council for approval at their next meeting. Board also reviewed plans for a structure including a shelter area, bathrooms, drinking fountain and maintenance room. The city is meeting with ISG to finalize these plans. Board also reviewed two types of swinging benches, wood and metal, to be placed so people can view the bluff and river area. A park sign will be placed near the entrance to the park which will be the same design as all city park signs. All parks signs are being updated and replaced so they will match. The Board will approve the new sign design at a later date. Board discussed using the same footings and just changing out the sign itself to minimize costs. Board asked about vandalism in the past to signs and Paul said some were broken when first installed but there hasn't been any vandalism to them recently. A flower garden will be planted near the park sign and Jayne Spooner, Master Gardener, has been contacted to design a plan and help plant the garden.
 - d) Faribault Middle School & Teepee Tonka Park Ballfields: Kain Smith, School District Director of Building and Grounds, contacted Paul and indicated they would like to keep discussions going about sharing the use of the FMS ballfields. The city will keep using

Teepee Tonka Park but if it floods again, fields will not be rebuilt. If needed, the city will use fields at North Alexander Park.

- e) Joint Owatonna/Faribault Park Board Meeting: Paul will contact the new Owatonna Parks and Recreation Director to discuss a joint meeting.
- f) Emerald Ash Borer: Paul stated if too many ash trees need to be removed; the City will hire outside assistance to remove them.
- g) Walk Loops: Board discussed mapping walk loops throughout the city to encourage people to walk. Janna asked about finishing/maintaining a trail by Teepee Tonka Park and Paul stated it is in the long-term park plans. Lola suggested a walking loop on Shumway Avenue to Roosevelt School to St. Paul Road and back. Or, there is a trail by Roosevelt School to shorten that loop. Board also suggested placing a water fountain by the water tower. Members will bring more ideas to next meeting. Lola responded after the meeting with the attached email describing more loop options.
- h) Parks & Recreation Advisory Board By-Laws: Board reviewed the approved By-Laws.

10) New Business:

- a) Public Works Park - Native Plant Garden: Paul received a request from the pollinator group to plant a native plant garden at the old public works site park or somewhere in the City. They would like to plant a small native plant garden, approximately 5 feet by 5 feet, and are asking for location options. There is currently one in the north quadrant of Central Park near the middle of the park. Suggestions included 4th Avenue SW and 8th Street where there is a small island (grassy area), near the “Welcome to Faribault” signs or White Sands Dog Park.
- b) Positivity Wall: Kymn Anderson, on behalf of the Faribault Foundation, contacted Paul to ask about placing a Positivity Wall somewhere in the city where people can write and display positive notes. It could be permanently installed some place or it could be moveable. The Faribault Foundation would review and maintain the wall. Janna suggested the Positivity Wall would blend well with the Virtues Park. Elsie suggested placing it throughout the city to spread positivity to other areas. Kymn Anderson will get back to Paul once they know if it is a permanent or portable wall.
- c) Update Facility Use Agreement: Paul reviewed the updated Facility Use Agreement between the School District and the City.
- d) LiveBarn Video at Bell Field: LiveBarn Video requested approval to install their streaming service at Bell Field. LiveBarn is a service which customers can subscribe to and can then watch activities online. It is installed at the Faribault Area Ice Arena and they are now requesting to install it at Bell Field, possibly for the state baseball tournament in a couple years. They will put in the internet access and cameras. Cameras are not manned but at the ice arena, for example, the camera follows the puck. Other people would be allowed to use hand-held cameras at the facility to record activities but similar streaming services wouldn't be allowed per the contract with LiveBarn. The contract which would be for five (5) years. Board discussed costs of watching the events online and quality of video. Board asked if there would be a problem with the state tournament as they may have their own streaming service. Paul will check with Charlie Lechtenberg regarding the state tournament. Board agreed if it is possible, it would be a great amenity but would like to see a demo before approving.

e) Holiday Decorations: The snowflakes installed on city light poles are almost 20 years old and are scheduled to be replaced in 2022. Paul will bring images of replacement options to the next meeting so the Board can review. If possible, Paul said he'd like them selected so they can then be purchased in January or February when they are less expensive.

11) Other: None.

12) Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 24, at Buckham West.

13) Motion was made by Lola, seconded by Elsie to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Hansen, Administrative Assistant

From: Lola Brand <lola.brand@msa.state.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 5:21 PM
To: Paul Peanasky <ppeanasky@ci.faribault.mn.us>
Subject: Re: February 24 Park and Recreation Board Meeting

Hey,

If it's not too late, I have a couple of comments on the walking loops.

- The east side one I mentioned last night (Roosevelt hill/water towers), there is a short section on Ravine that does not have a sidewalk
- I had asked if sidewalks were required simply because I wanted to mention FrogTown as an option but there are few sidewalks there. Jana mentioned frog town - I like that area because there is little traffic. I walk through there coming off the trail so I don't have a great start point that would loop.
- Another loop might be: leave the community center, go south on Willow, turn on either 1st, 2nd or Tower (all great hills). If you go up Tower, go right on 1st Ave SW - that is steep. Continue on 1st all the way to (big hill from Division to 1st Street NW) 2nd Street, go right to Central and loop back to FCC. OR, on Tower, continue up to BA (2nd Ave), go right and continue to 2nd Street, go right on Central and loop back to FCC.
- That area between 3rd Ave SW and Central has a lot of hills and valleys. You could make a loop that is up, down, up down,...several times.
- From the Sr High School parking lot, go up 9th Ave to 10th street or continue on to the trail by Quick Trip, go right turning Prairie, continue North to 3rd St SW and loop back to Sr High.
- From the middle school go right (west) on 17th, turn right on 9th, when you get to the trail take a right and follow the trail to the swingset trail, continue on and take a right on Willow, go up the hill and turn on 17th looping back to the parking lot.
- There's great walking out in Batchelder addition and the Country Club...