

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

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

- 1) Meeting was called to order by Troy at 6:03 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Sally, seconded by Lola to approve minutes of February 26, 2020.
- 3) Director's Report:
  - a) Furlough of Staff: Paul reported that two permanent parttime front desk staff and one permanent parttime custodian, have been put on furlough due to the Community Center being closed.
  - b) Staff Working: Recreation staff were working from home for two weeks and Parks staff were at home due to COVID19. Currently, Parks staff are back working on many projects and getting parks ready for the summer. Recreation staff are coming into the office more and working both from home and in the office.
  - c) Outlook for Summer: Recreation staff have reviewed programs for the summer and set deadlines for holding programs. They're also determining which programs they can hold and which they can't with social distancing in mind. Staff is also watching webinars and involved in online meetings to determine what other cities are doing and to get new ideas. There are not many cancellations yet as most cities are waiting as long as possible to cancel programs with the hope to hold some summer programs. As of now, the Faribault July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks are still scheduled to be set off at Rice County Fairgrounds.
  - d) Arbor Day: Arbor Day has been moved to May 9. It was originally scheduled for May 2. City Council will approve the Arbor Day Proclamation at their meeting on April 28.
  - e) Farmers' Market: The Minnesota Department of Agriculture staff has visited Faribault to determine how the Farmers Market can safely be held. They may possibly close 5<sup>th</sup> Street, just north of Central Park, to set up all vendors on the street to allow social distancing. Arts and crafts vendors are still not allowed thru July 1<sup>st</sup>. Only food vendors are currently allowed.
  - f) City Closures: BMX Board has been informed that they cannot open the BMX track at this time. Paul stated the Soccer Complex remains closed as well and the basketball rims at North Alexander Park may be taken down due to no organized sports being allowed.
  - g) Heritage Days: Heritage Days 2020 have been cancelled. The Heritage Days Parade and some other Heritage Days events may be held in conjunction with the Blue Collar BBQ and Arts Festival in August.
  - h) Current Projects: Paul reviewed current City projects which include: upgrades at Bell Field; development of Meadows Park; replacement of Community Center pool ductwork; electrical installation at Waupacuta Park shelter; and lights, painting and

signage at Teepee Tonka Park tunnel. The City Engineering Department has also been helping with establishing boundaries and trail design at Prairie Park, redesign of parking areas at North Alexander Park, sidewalk and parking lot design for the new park at the old public works site, and trail design into Teepee Tonka Park. Paul received notice from the railroad company that the City has a right of way across the railroad tracks into Teepee Tonka Park. Installing a trail will make it a much safer crossing.

- 4) Requests to be Heard: None.
- 5) Old Business:
  - a) Mural on Band Shell – West Wall: Nothing new to report.
  - b) Inclusive Playground: Individuals met in February regarding the inclusive playground and Paul plans to schedule another meeting in the near future.
  - c) Mill Towns Trail/Northern Links Trail Update: Paul stated he is waiting for a response regarding the grant application submitted requesting funds to extend the trail under the railroad tracks from North Alexander Park to Hulett Avenue.
  - d) Tunnel Lighting, Signage & Painting: The electrician is currently installing lights in the Teepee Tonka Park tunnel. Painting and signage will be done shortly.
  - e) Old Public Works Park Layout: Paul shared a preliminary design of the new park at the old public work site. Board will review park design again in the future.
  - f) Discussion of FMS Ball Fields as Replacement for Teepee Tonka Fields: Nothing new to report.
- 9) New Business:
  - a) Windsor Park Playground: Board reviewed two options for playground equipment to be installed at Windsor Park. Option 1 has more traditional equipment and option 2 has newer ideas. Board agreed that option 1 is more user friendly to smaller children but option 2 has options that aren't available at other parks. Board discussed keeping both the slide pieces on option 1 and changing out the smaller equipment with climbing equipment from option 2 if financially feasible. Paul will ask for a cost of changes requested and will present to the Board for review prior to sending information to the nearby residents. Also, the playground area will be moved to the east so it is further away from the corner.
- 10) Other:
  - a) Stairs at Teepee Tonka Park: Lola asked who owns the stairs located across the bridge in Teepee Tonka Park as the railings are in need of repairs. Paul stated they are owned by the city and he will follow up on repairing the railings.
  - b) 30<sup>th</sup> Street Development: Cashin Construction was given authorization by City Council to move forward with development and construction of apartments near 30<sup>th</sup> Street NW. Paul informed the Development Review Committee that the Parks & Recreation Board supports receiving parkland dedication funds rather than property for the development.
  - c) Western Avenue Development by Stoneridge: Paul stated the parkland dedication for the Western Avenue development will be adjacent to the existing park.
- 8) Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

9) Motion was made by Elsie, seconded by Lola to adjourn at 6:53 p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Hansen, Administrative Assistant

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