

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PARK & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
 OF THE CITY OF PRINCETON IN THE COUNTY OF MILLE LACS
 IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA
 REGULAR MEETING
 MONDAY, JULY 25, 2022

1. Call to Order

The Park and Recreation Advisory Board met in Regular Session and Chair Jill Papesh called the meeting to order at 6:11 PM.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jill Papesh	Chair	Present
Andrea Gerrard	Vice-Chair	Absent
Carla Vita	Secretary	Present
Aaron Gruber	Board Member	Present
Travis Koenen	Board Member	Present
Robert Peters	Board Member	Absent
Bob Gerold	Staff	Present
Jules Zimmer	Council Member Liaison	Present

Others present: Maverick Scepurek, Haley Payment and Paige Johneson.

2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of June 27, 2022

Motion by Gruber, second by Vita to approve the minutes with the modification as stated by Papesh. Motion carried 4- 0.

3. New Business:

3.1 Franchise Fees

Gerold stated that he is waiting for the City Attorney to provide his opinion on when the franchise fees will end. Papesh inquired if any additional funds will exist. Gerold stated that no excess funds are available. He stated that they are verifying if all the improvements have been paid.

3.2 Park Improvement Fund Balance as of December 31, 2021 and YTD Fund Activity
Gerold informed that the park dedication funds can only be used for new park equipment and new park development, it cannot be used for repairs or updating park equipment. This is regulated by State Statute. The funds come from new construction - residential and commercial. Gerold informed that the amount is within the packet and does not include the apartment buildings under construction.

3.3 Park Plan

Gerold informed that WSB, the City's engineering firm has prepared the cost to prepare a park plan for the park board. The proposal is going to the City Council. Gerold is checking to see if Park Dedication funds will cover the cost. If approved, it will be a 2023 project. Vita stated she supports having professional staff assist City Staff especially with the lack of City staff capacity. Vita requested an updated amount for the bid due to the proposed modifications to the bid as stated by staff. Vita also requested to have city attorney's opinion if park dedication funds can be used for park plan development.

4. Reports by Staff

4.1. Mark Park

Gerold stated that the park is doing well.

4.1.1. Request for flagpole near concession stand

Gerold informed if PYBSA desires a flagpole near the concession stand. A flag pole already exists. A representative from PYBSA will be presenting on the request next month. Papesh stated her support of the PYBSA covering the cost of an additional flag pole in the park as long as they work with Gerold on the appropriate location.

4.2. Splash Park

Payment, a City Intern, informed that the Splash Park is going well. 2 sponsored free days have been completed. 5 more are scheduled.

4.2.1. Ed Yost will oversee the remainder of the year

As presented.

4.3 Riverside Park

4.3.1. No camp host, canoe/kayak program to continue for now

Gerold informed that the Park currently lacks a camp host. The City is working to continue the canoeing program for the remainder of the year. The Police Department is assisting with payments.

Currently only tent sites are available at Reibe and payment can only occur online.

Canoe availability still exists. However without a camp host to bring the canoe to the start location, things have changed.

4.4. Rainbow Park

Gerold stated that some trees have been removed and cameras are being installed. He stated that social media is demanding porta potties, however with vandalism, they have been removed.

4.5. Riebe Park

Gerold stated that it is doing well. Volunteers put up the dog park fence. All flood repairs have been made.

4.6. Pioneer Park

Gerold informed that they have been cleaning the park.

4.6.1 Cross country meet August 25th

Cross country will have a meet there again this school year.

4.7. Riverview Terrace Nature Park

No updates.

4.8. Civic Center Park

4.8.1. Request for Pickle Ball Courts (4)

Gerold has received a request for pickleball in the parks. The net is not up all the time, people must go to City Hall for the net. He is proposing a pickle ball court under the skating rink. Summer pickle ball courts, winter skating rink. Gerold inquired if the park board would like the addition of pickleball courts in the park? Papesch stated that she would like to know a cost and then add it to the CIP. She said the courts are good for the community.

4.9. Veterans Park

See old business.

5. Old Business:

Scepurek, Boy Scout, who had formerly approached the Park Board on a Veterans Memorial at Veterans Park came to the Park Board to present a modified proposed Eagle project for Veteran's Park. His proposal for Veteran's Park includes:

- Replace the American flag pole light by making it solar
- Clean and polish the flagpole
- Remove the chain swing, replace it with a bench with a plaque stating it is dedicated to Veterans. He stated that the swing bench does not swing.
- Concrete bowl to be removed
- Add bike rack
- Peace pole clean, plain and restore
- Grill repaint and remove the rust
- Erect a sign thanking Veterans and any financial donors.

Papesh discussed that the Park Board has 3 approved benches for the parks for uniformity. The benches can be purchased with the assistance of Gerold. As the acquisition of the bench appeared to be a challenge for Scepurek, he stated he would clean and paint the bench instead.

Papesh inquired if Scepurek had permission to update the peace pole. Scepurek stated that he had not. The Park Board stated that he needs permission before he works on the pole.

Scepurek stated that the concrete bowl is not working. Gerold stated that the bowl has not been turned on for 18 years. Gerold stated that Scepurek needs to work with him as capping the water is important.

Gruber asked about the bike rack construction. Papesh stated that the high school made some in the past, maybe they could provide plans to Scepurek.

Scepurek stated that the sign will state that the park is dedicated to Veterans. It would thank Veterans. Papesh inquired as to the size. Scepurek stated the size would be 18" x 18". Gruber stated that the Board needs to see and approve the sign before it is erected. Please work with Gerold.

Scepurek stated that he did some fundraising, if he does not use all the funds he would donate the excess to the Parks.

Gerold supports the project. Motion by Vita, second by Gruber to approve the project. Motion approved unanimously.

6. Miscellaneous:

Johnson informed that they have a draft of the parks brochure. It lists the parks and the amenities. Some modifications the board asked include:

- Veterans Park address change from 5th St S to 4th St S
- Veterans Park, strike Triangle
- Mark Park, add trails and baseball fields
- Civic Center Park, add pickle ball court
- Riverside Park, add restrooms with showers and cribbage board
- Riebe Park, add snowshoeing trails
- Riverside Park, add nature preserve

Please modify and update the website also.

Thank yous to Payment and Johneson were given from the Park Board.

Next month, August, the meeting shall be at Veterans Park.

7. Adjourn

Motion by Vita second by Gerrard to adjourn at 6:45pm.