

MINUTES
OF THE CITY OF PRINCETON IN THE COUNTY OF MILLE LACS
IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023

1. Call to Order / Oath of Officers / Election of Officers

The Park and Recreation Advisory Board met in Regular Session and Chair Papesh called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jill Papesh	Chair	Present
Carla Vita	Vice-Chair	Present
Christina Dearman	Secretary	Present
Elisabeth Burd	Board Member	Present
Aaron Gruber	Board Member	Present
Travis Koenen	Board Member	Absent
Robert Peters	Board Member	Present
Bob Gerold	Staff	Present
Jenny Gerold	Council Member Liaison	Present

Oath of Office was taken by Park Board Members Elisabeth Burd, Christina Dearman and Carla Vita. All Park Board Members, Staff and Council Member Liaison introduced themselves.

Chair: Motion by Gruber, second by Peters for Papesh to be selected as Chair. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair: Motion by Papesh, second by Dearman for Vita to be selected as Vice-Chair. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary: Motion by Gruber, second by Vita for Dearman to be selected as Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of the October 24, 2022 meeting.

Motion by Gruber, second by Peters to approve the October 24, 2022 minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. New Business:

None.

4. Reports by Staff

4.1. Mark Park

4.1.1. Restrooms at Solheim

Gerold provided updates. Zimmer has not provided an update regarding the mural.

4.2. Splash Park

4.2.1. Pump House

Gerold informed that he is working with staff on maintenance. Papesch inquired to the broken lines that Gerold was exploring options on in October. Gerold stated that the person from South Dakota has not reviewed the lines yet.

4.3 Riverside Park

Gerold discussed that the Rum River Festival is inquiring to a beer garden at the park which would require a liquor license. He stated that the music portion was not very well attended last year. He is expecting a request for a liquor license for a longer duration. Gerold inquired to whether the Park Board interested in allowing a liquor license for the park for the festival for a longer duration. Papesch stated that in the past there has not been issues with the liquor at the park during events. Dearman inquired if the event had adequate marketing to draw enough people. Dearman stated that protecting people from the river and debris from going into the river is important. Gerold stated that the area will be cordoned off to meet her concerns. CM Gerold informed that Pizza Pub held the liquor license last year. Gruber informed that the event is held in June.

Motion by Vita second by Dearman to allow a liquor license in Riverside Park for three days. Further discussion by Dearman is that the additional time might be of interest to businesses that might want to apply. Motion carried unanimously.

4.4. Rainbow Park

Gerold stated that snow-storage is taking place at the park. Gerold informed that storing snow at the park saves the city funds from having to haul it further.

4.5. Riebe Park

Gerold stated that the park still is active with people bringing their dogs. Vita inquired if the City composts dog droppings. Gerold stated that they do not.

4.6. Pioneer Park

Gerold informed that the park is being used. He stated that he has not groomed the trails as the snow is too deep. Gerold will be looking for grooming equipment for next winter.

4.7. Riverview Terrace Nature Park

4.7.1. Maple Tapper is returning

Gerold stated that the Maple Tapper will be back this year. The tapper pays the city \$1 per tap per tree. The funds are used for trees for the park system. Gerold stated that the Tapper has anticipated 1000 taps this year.

Dearman inquired if the public participates in the tapping. Gerold informed that they do not as it is a commercial business that ultimately sells the syrup to the public. It also reduces liability. Papesh informed that the tapper has a 10 year lease. Gerold further informed that the product is sold in multiple locations including the Princeton Farmer's Market.

4.8. Civic Center Park

Gerold stated that later this year pickle ball courts will be installed at the ice rink area. Gerold stated that the cost for the concrete is expensive, but is needed for the courts.

4.8.1. Unable to open skating rink

Gerold educated that due to the weather, ice has not been able to be made at the park.

4.9. Veteran's Park

Gerold stated no updates.

5. Old Business:

Gerold stated that WSB, the City's Engineering firm, provided a proposal for a Park Plan. The plan might assist in a regional designation that might assist for state grant funding. The funds would come from the City's General Fund, not park dedication fees.

Papesh inquired to the cost of the plan. Gerold stated that most of the work for the plan is for civil work. It helps with the analysis which will assist the Park Board. Vita stated that in a prior career she worked with parks. That the plans often are an important piece to receive grant funds. Vita stated that the plan can also assist in the justification for the park dedication fees that the City charges developers for residential, commercial and industrial development.

CM Gerold stated that the City lacked plans when she first came to the City Council. The City Council is working on completing plans as they are important to the future of the City. Gerold stated that he is appreciative for the City Council to plan.

Vita stated that she is very familiar with the WSB process. She is asking that the Park Board be invited to the public meetings and meetings with the City Council. Vita also stated that invites to the schools, senior center, churches, are important. She also stated that social media is important. Vita stated that the voices and input of young to old is important.

CM Gerold informed that franchise fees will not be used for parks if it is extended.

Papesh inquired if regional designation is important for grant funding. Gerold stated that it is. Dearman inquired to how close the city is in acreage to receive the regional destination. Gerold did not know.

Vita inquired if Staff was looking for a motion on the WSB proposal. Gerold stated that City Council will make the determination, that this item was being brought forth to the Park Board for their review.

6. Miscellaneous:

Vita informed that the Eagle Ceremony for Boy Scout Renzo Vita is planned for 1pm on Sunday March 26 at the Princeton Civic Center. The Park Board will be invited.

7. Adjourn

Park Board chose City Hall for their next meeting. Motion by Vita second by Gruber to adjourn at 7:09pm.