

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE CITY OF PRINCETON IN THE COUNTY OF MILLE LACS**  
**IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023**

1. Call to Order

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

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>
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	Present
Robert Peters	Board Member	Present
Bob Gerold	Staff	Present
Jenny Gerold	Council Member Liaison	Present
Abby Benson	Recreation, Marketing & Communications Intern	Present
Emma Benjamin	Recreation, Marketing & Communications Intern	Present

2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of the April 27, 2023 meeting.

Motion by Christina Dearman, second by Aaron Gruber to approve the April 27, 2023 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### 3. New Business:

#### 3.1. Bob & Jill participated in a podcast with the Chamber

Discussed the park's. The podcast air date is unknown but may be a few months from now. Talked about upcoming and historical projects etc. J Gerold to meet and confirm the air date this week.

### 4. Reports by Staff:

#### 4.1. Mark Park

##### 4.1.1. Ordered hydration / bike repair station

Working with Sherburne County and now a part of the regional system for the Great Northern Trail. Stacy found a grant for the hydration station. Station to be installed at the entrance to the trail.

Tools for bike repair, a hand air pump, and potable water. Minimal maintenance required for upkeep of bike stations. All tools are versatile and attached by cable. 11th Ave is under surveillance. Water hookup is going to be tapped into the old dump station.

#### 4.2. Splash Park

The Department of Health inspected and ran water tests. No issues reported. No mechanical issues so far this season.

##### 4.2.1. Update by Abby Benson

Packet provided to the group. Revenue numbers have exceeded last year's numbers and exceeded expected numbers for this year. Community involvement with suggestions on items to sell on concessions has gone well. Incentive to get free regular admission by visiting on multiple free days. Free days bring in more concession revenues. Multiple sponsors have been acquired for free days due to Abby's efforts. Free passes and gift cards available to purchase online. Board members expressed gratitude for efforts and engaging with youth.

Burd enquired about chipped paint, B Gerold confirmed this maintenance is on the agenda for the off season.

Vita enquired with J Gerold about an end of season thank you to the youth, recommended papers by council.

#### 4.3. Riverside Park

We now have camp hosts. Had a meeting to define parameters and expectations of a host. We now have someone booked in who will remain for the season barring any unforeseen issues.

Doing overseeding around the campsites, this is possible due to the camp host due to the ability for that individual to move watering equipment. This will improve the experience for guests.

#### 4.3.1. Minimal issues with camping guests

#### 4.4. Rainbow Park

No issues, property available for sale is still for sale. Challenging sale due to flooding.

#### 4.5. Riebe Park

4.5.1. Trail has been repaired. Disc Golf activity is up  
High waters this year necessitated repair. Granite piles remain to be used as time allows. No other issues reported. Possibly doing necessary stream bank work.  
Dog park and disc golf are going well with high usage

#### 4.6. Pioneer Park

Treating for mosquitoes but no other issues

#### 4.7. Riverview Terrace Nature Park

Tapper is gone, nothing else to report.

#### 4.8. Civic Center Park

Contractor will be cutting in courts in early July. Parts have been ordered. Painting will take the longest time. Equipment will be available to rent, but only at city hall when it is open. Nets will be provided. Nets will be set into sockets that are removable to convert to skating rink in winter season.

##### 4.8.1. Update by Emma Benjamin for Pickleball Court

Packet provided to the group. Parking lots were put up for sale and some parties were upset about this. Benjamin reassured the group that she went to every business to give them the first opportunity to buy the lots that will be sold. Various signage projects discussed.

Website launch soon for Surrey bikes related to rental program. Working also with the municipal liquor store on promotions.

Vita enquired about insights from the younger generation on improvements we could make for both engagement in the community. Benjamin expressed that we may want to expand into Instagram marketing or TikTok to get content in front of younger eyes. She also suggested visiting schools for non-profit fairs to increase awareness of options after high school.

Board members expressed gratitude for all the work the Interns have done.

#### 4.9. Veteran's Park

### 5. Old Business:

#### 5.1. Tent site discussion at Riverside

B Gerold states that all issues we have had at this park have generated from the tent sites. Issues generate police activity. There are no similar issues at rustic sites. Having a camp host deterrers activity.

Gruber raised concerns that we don't have enough information. Question raised if we should keep or remove the sites. Consensus is to see if the camp host helps to resolve the issues.

### 6. Miscellaneous:

Dearman enquired about volleyball nets and wheelchair swing repair. B Gerold was aware of nets but not swing.

Vita asked about the results of a survey for WSB. Surveys are still open so no data is available. Unable to get numbers of response counts.

### 7. Adjourn

Park Board chose Rainbow Park for their next regular meeting.

Motion by Carla Vita second by Travis Koenen to adjourn at 6:59pm.