

MINUTES
OF THE CITY OF PRINCETON IN THE COUNTY OF MILLE LACS
IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 22, 2023

1. Call to Order

The Park and Recreation Advisory Board met in Regular Session and Jill Papesh called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jill Papesh	Chair	Present
Carla Vita	Vice-Chair	Present
Christina Dearman	Secretary	Present
Elisabeth Burd	Board Member	Absent
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

2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of the April 24, 2023 meeting.

Motion by Robert Peters, second by Travis Koenen to approve the March 27, 2023 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. New Business:

3.1. Fountain is in at Meadowview

Last year the fountain was waiting on parts and it was determined that it was a good idea to wait instead of rush the repair in late August. We have had issues with muskrat nests and rodents chewing wires as well as other wildlife making homes in the fountain. Parts came in and the fountain is operational.

4. Reports by Staff:

4.1. Mark Park

Working with the softball and baseball groups to get surfacing around the park, specifically around concessions between the softball fields. Gerold is hoping for better pricing. Working on collecting quotes for various types of surfacing and there is money in the CIP for this work. Will make a decision when all the quotes come in. Looking at either hard surface or permeable.

Faith fest may not happen. The group requesting use thought they would have a softball tournament and now the fields have been reserved due to delay on the part of faith fest requestors putting in the request to reserve as this is first come first serve. May move to the airport or potentially the fairgrounds. Parking is an issue at the airport. Est 2500 - 3k attendees so parking will be important.

4.1.1. Getting quotes for surface around concession stand above

4.2. Splash Park

4.2.1. New hires have been trained. The Surrey bike has been stored there. Pumps back and repaired and staff has been trained. No update on the pipe repairs yet as the contractors are not responding. The door on the building discussed at a prior meeting has been installed. all costs for the door were covered by donations in kind and cash

4.3. Riverside Park

4.3.1. Dock is in / campground is open
Dock has been installed and the fishing pier has been repaired. The camera system is up and running also. Campground has been busy since opening. Downed trees in river are planned to be removed as soon as conditions allow (mid to late summer estimated to align conditions with available labor)

4.4. Rainbow Park

A broken hazardous tree was removed to avoid any issues. Tree inventory of the trees put in last September by crystal cabinets and reported 3-5% mortality. The remaining trees are healthy.

4.5. Riebe Park

4.5.1. Repairs to the trail are needed
Once the eroded trail is repaired the potholes will be filled in on the road

4.6. Pioneer Park

4.6.1. Treated oxbows for mosquitos

Put in a "BTI " which is a growth inhibitor which does not allow mosquito larvae to mature into adults. This is the 4th year we have done this. Treating this way reduces the number of times we need to spray.

4.7. Riverview Terrace Nature Park

Tapping for the season is complete. There were some difficulties with the water/flooding, but otherwise no reported issues.

4.8. Civic Center Park

4.8.1. Concrete is scheduled for July - pickleball

Waiting to hear back on nets/sockets for the courts. Looking to reach out to a different contact to get a better line of communications. Assuming the painter is available soon after the concrete is poured the courts may be opened late July

4.9. Veterans Park

5. Old Business:

Park tour with WSB occurred earlier this month. WSB is working on the park plan. Many photos were taken and information plus survey data will be compiled. There is a QR code at the early childhood fair and there is a Facebook survey but not on the city website. Papash requested Gerold to ask that the link be added to the city website.

Community has complained about no visible flag at mark park. The national anthem being played at softball games is disappointing there is no flag to salute. Possible solutions would be to install a flag on the top of the building, this would be visible from all three fields. We would mount solar lights to the pole to light the flag.

The Civic Center building has some cracks and peeling paint. Curiosity about how to repair. Gerold mentioned that repairing cracks is difficult to do, a better solution might be to replace the siding with steel. The existing log siding is nearing end of life.

Vita enquired about if any of the schools had approached the parks board about anything for budget season. Gerold states that all that has been discussed is the resurfacing. Gerold updated the group about previous communication issues with parties coming in after the budget is set with requests that cannot be fulfilled properly due to lack of budget. conflicting budgeting

seasons between the school and the city have previously caused some turbulence in alignment. Scoreboards and pitching machines were previously repaired as a shared cost.

Mille Lacs county may provide some funds for recovery of storm damages to riverside park such as the downed tree and damages to fishing pier.

6. Miscellaneous:

7. Adjourn

The Park Board chose Mark Park for their next regular meeting. Motion by Travis Koenen second by Aaron Gruber to adjourn at 6:35pm.