

BRAINERD PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Regular Park Board Meeting
June 28, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.
City Hall Conference Room

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the
Parks and Recreation Board was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present were President Dale Parks, Dan Hegstad, Jackie Burkey, Holly Holm, Tim Boeder, City Council Liaison Gabe Johnson and Park Director Tony Sailer. Also noted present was City Administrator Jim Thoreen.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

**MOVED AND SECONDED BY HOLM AND BURKEY,
DULY CARRIED TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PRESENTED**

- A. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held May 24, 2016**
- B. Approval of the disbursements for the month of June 2016**

OLD BUSINESS

A. Park Policing

At the May meeting, the Park Board directed staff to follow up with the city prosecutor regarding the Brainerd Police Department's request for the Parks Department to send letters to individuals who were cited for inappropriate activity in the parks and banned from the parks for a period of time. Mr. Sailer reported that the city prosecutor and city attorney agreed that this did not constitute due process, and Parks Department staff should not be involved. No further action was required by the Board.

B. Splash Pad Project

Mr. Sailer met with Emily Noble and another representative from the Splash Pad Committee to discuss possible sites. Gregory, Lum and Kiwanis parks were considered, as they have existing restrooms, water and power sources. Staff and committee members are recommending the southeast corner of Gregory Park as the most viable site, as it has a flat open space and a restroom in addition to existing water and power. Lum Park is too sloped and Kiwanis Park doesn't have enough space. After considerable discussion, Mr. Hegstad made a motion to approve the southeast corner of Gregory Park as a site for a splash pad facility, pending public input and discussion. A public hearing for the proposed splash pad is tentatively scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on July 19; location to be determined. Mr. Boeder seconded. The motion passed 4-1, with Ms. Burkey voting against.

NEW BUSINESS

A. No Wake Zone Buoy

The Chair recognized Mr. Lawrence Severt, representing the Rice Lake Association. Mr. Severt shared that Rice Lake resident Marty Johnson approached the association when he learned that the Parks Department no longer places a "No Wake Zone" buoy in the channel near the boat landing at Lum Park. Mr. Sailer explained that unless the channel is officially designated a no wake zone by the county, anyone that places a buoy in the area is responsible for any liability that may arise. When the Park Board approved installing a buoy in 2004, liability was not a part of the discussion, and Crow Wing County did not approve a no wake zone ordinance at that time. The League of Minnesota Cities does not recommend that the City assume unnecessary liability, the lake is not the City's jurisdiction, and the department does not have the equipment necessary to place and remove buoys (namely, a boat). Mr. Severt indicated that Mr. Johnson plans to buy buoys and place them. In the meantime, Mr. Severt has begun the process of applying for a no wake zone designation from the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Department, which must also be approved by the State of Minnesota.

B. Trees Damaged

Earlier in June at least a dozen trees were destroyed in Kiwanis Park and along College Drive by what looks to have been a machete. Formal charges are pending against two 16-year-old suspects. Staff is working with the Engineering Department and Brainerd Kiwanis Club to replace the trees. The early estimate to replace trees of that size exceeds \$9,200, and that does not include removing roots and other related labor. Insurance only covers trees along the roadway and those within 100 feet of park buildings, and there is a \$5,000 deductible.

C. Youth Tournament Arrest

Prompt action by alert parents at the 11 & Under/13 & Under state baseball qualifiers resulted in the arrest of a Maple Grove man on June 18. The suspect was repeatedly following youth into the restroom at the baseball field in Bane Park. Police continue to investigate the matter. Staff contacted each team that participated, as well as Minnesota Youth Athletic Services that oversees the state qualifiers. Anyone with information about the incident was asked to contact the Brainerd Police Department.

PUBLIC FORUM

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Thoreen reported that the Splash Pad Committee is moving along, the budget process is cranking up, and the Citizen's Facilities Committee will present its final report at the evening meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The 61st annual Bronco League Mid-Summer Classic and the 17th annual Pony League Mid-Summer Classic will take place at Bane Park on July 5.
- The youth softball Mid-Summer Slam will take place at Buffalo Hills-Lions Park on July 14.
- The Gopher State Tournament of Champions 15 & Under state baseball tournament will take place at the Mills, Adamson, Central Lakes College, Forestview and Nisswa fields July 15-17.
- Winners Trophy and Engraving donated trophies for the Miracle League players.
- Copies of the June/July issue of Lake Country Journal magazine with an article about the Miracle League Field were distributed to board members.
- ADA compliant curb cut and sidewalk have been installed at the Lum Park fishing pier.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hegstad made a motion at adjourn at 5:00 p.m. Ms. Holm seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Finch, Administrative Specialist