

**BRAINERD PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Regular Park Board Meeting
June 27, 2017 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, Tim Boeder, Jackie Burkey, Holly Holm, City Council Liaison Dave Badeaux and Park Director Tony Sailer. City Administrator Jim Thoreen was also noted present.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

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

- A. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held May 23, 2017**
- B. Approval of the disbursements for the month of June 2017**

OLD BUSINESS

A. Gregory Park Landscaping

The Essentia Health Foundation provided a grant to replace the Gregory Park Center Court landscaping with new plants and wood fiber. Ten maple trees were also planted along the southeast and east boulevards of the park. Volunteers from Essentia Health worked with Landsburg Landscape Nursery to complete the project. The staff and Board are very appreciative of this grant and the volunteers from Essentia Health.

B. Gregory Park Fountain

The Gregory Park fountain restoration began on June 19. The first week involved sandblasting the fountain's bowl, filling cracks and painting. The crew will return to install the lights and pumps and connect the water and electrical sources. It is hoped the fountain will be operational by July 4. Both Gregory Park projects have been posted on the department's facebook page, with many positive comments received.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Seasonal Employee Pay Increase

The state minimum wage was raised to \$9.50 effective August 1, 2016, an increase of \$.50 per hour. A temporary seasonal worker who has worked concessions for many years was earning \$10.00 at the time of the minimum wage increase, and is requesting a similar \$.50 per hour wage increase retroactive to her May 28, 2017, starting date. Staff is in favor of the wage increase. The chair recognized Mr. Thoreen, who commented that staff has been discussing the pay scale for parttime employees, which will be carried into the 2018 budget discussions. The hope is that a better wage will attract and retain better employees. Mr. Hegstad made a motion to approve the wage increase for the employee requesting it. Ms. Holm seconded and board approval was unanimous.

B. Request for Use of City Facilities

The annual Warrior Homecoming 5k/10k Run is requesting to have the pavilion rental fee waived for the use of Kiwanis Park on September 30. Event organizers use the shelter for registration from 6-9 a.m. The event is part of the Brainerd Homecoming activities, and all proceeds go to Warrior athletics, arts and academics. After a brief discussion, Ms. Burkey made a motion to approve the request, Mr. Boeder seconded, and the motion passed 4-1 with Ms. Holm opposed. The Board requested that the matter of waiving park rental fees be added to the July meeting agenda.

C. Wounded Warriors

Staff reported that a few of the Wounded Warriors Amputee Softball Team players will arrive early on Friday, July 7, to play against the Miracle League players at 1:00 p.m. at the Miracle League Field at Bane Park. At 7:30 p.m. the Wounded Warriors will play a local team at Mills Field. Special guest softball player is Indianapolis Colts offensive lineman Joe Haag, a Brainerd High School graduate. There will be a patriotic performance by Kat Perkins, activities for children, fireworks and autograph/photo opportunities. No admission will be charged, but a free-will offering will be accepted, with all proceeds to benefit the Wounded Warriors organization.

PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Burkey commented that City Forester Katie Kaufman has indicated that the nursery tree whips are ready to be planted, but they need to be watered consistently so may have to remain at the CLC gravel bed nursery for the time being.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Thoreen expressed kudos to Essentia Health and the Parks Department's maintenance crew for the excellent job on sprucing up Gregory Park. He would like to see additional staffing for the department.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The 62nd annual Bronco League Mid-Summer Classic will take place at Bane Park at 6 p.m. on July 5 and the 18th annual Pony League Mid-Summer Classic will be played at 6:15 p.m. the same evening. The Pony League game will have the Brainerd and Baxter teams playing against the teams from Aitkin, Crosby-Ironton and Pequot Lakes.
- The Minnesota Twins youth baseball/softball clinic had 36 participants on June 10 at Bane Park. Participants were from Brainerd, Baxter, Pillager and Pequot Lakes.
- The Gopher State 15 & Under state baseball tournament will take place at Mills, Adamson, CLC and Forestview fields July 21-23.
- Rain hampered the two youth baseball tournaments in June, but the field crews did an outstanding job getting the fields playable and many coaches and parents praised their efforts.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, July 25, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the Conference Room at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 4:35 p.m. was made by Ms. Holm and seconded by Ms. Burkey. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Finch, Administrative Specialist