

BRAINERD PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Regular Park Board Meeting
December 17, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.
Crow Wing County Courthouse-3rd floor-326 Laurel Street, Brainerd

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 Troy Rushmeyer, Tim Boeder, Dale Parks, Kara Schaefer and Park Director Tony Sailer.
Kevin Yeager and City Council Liaison Dave Badeaux were noted absent.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

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

- A. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held November 26, 2019**
- B. Approval of the disbursements for the month of December 2019**

OLD BUSINESS

A. Mississippi Landing

Mr. Sailer introduced Ashley Kaisershot from Sourcewell, who turned the floor over to Don Gorham from the Brainerd Riverfront Committee. Mr. Gorham recapped what he presented at the August 27 Park Board meeting, and shared what the committee has been doing since then to engage and inform the community about the Mississippi Landing Trailhead project. He reported there will be a BRC stakeholders meeting on January 9. Mr. Gorham turned the floor over to Ms. Kaisershot, who presented an updated conceptual plan for the project and shared results from a community survey that was conducted in October/November. The committee was pleased to have feedback from 453 survey respondents, who overall were very supportive of the project. Committee members feel they received very useful public input that will help guide the design process as well as promote the project. Park Board members are supportive of the project.

The chair recognized John Forrest, co-chair of the Rotary Park Committee. Mr. Forrest brought the Park Board up to speed with what the Rotary Club is planning for Rotary Park. The club's Centennial Project for 2021-2022 is most likely going to be the construction of a gathering place off the parking area at Rotary Park. Preliminary plans are to build an open shelter that will look similar to the entrance structure built of rough timbers and stone. The 185-acre Rotary Park has over a mile of riverfront, and it is the Rotary Club's intent to keep it a quiet and passive natural park. The Parks Department will provide maintenance such as garbage pick-up. Mr. Sailer and the Park Board expressed appreciation to Mr. Forrest and the Brainerd Rotary Club for all of the hard work and dedication that has made Rotary Park a reality, and are supportive of its Centennial Project.

B. Memorial Park Project

The City Council approved the 2020 budget which includes bonding for \$1.3 million for the Memorial Park Project. Mr. Sailer reported that Mike Higgins from the Brainerd Industrial Center has been approached about what the City is willing to pay for the Memorial Park parking lot, and the City is waiting for a written response from Mr. Higgins.

C. Children's Museum

Peter Olson has informed the City Council that Lum Park has been chosen as the site of the proposed Children's Museum. Mr. Sailer stated that the Park Board will need to approve the design and location of the Children's Museum as the project progresses. Mr. Rushmeyer predicts it will involve a series of special meetings similar to the Memorial Park Project committee meetings.

D. 2020 Seasonal Pay Rates

Staff provided 2019 program revenues vs. expenditures the Board requested at the November meeting. Following discussion, Mr. Parks made a motion to approve the 2020 Seasonal Pay Rates, Mr. Boeder seconded and board approval was unanimous.

E. Youth Baseball

Park Board president Troy Rushmeyer and Mr. Sailer met with Community Education Director Cori Reynolds to discuss combining the Brainerd and Baxter youth baseball programs as well as the travel associations. It was decided to schedule another meeting to include staff, the Park Board president, Brainerd Lakes Area Baseball Association member Derek Owen, the Baxter Baseball Association director and the Baxter mayor. The meeting will take place December 19.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Transfer of Funds

Staff requests to transfer \$5,017 of unused 2019 donations from the Park Fund to the Park Dedication Fund. This transfer is done annually so that donations can be used at a future date. Mr. Boeder made a motion to approve the transfer as requested, Ms. Schaefer seconded and board approval was unanimous.

B. Year-end Reports

Year-end reports for contributions and donations, campground and pavilions, program revenues/expenses and participation numbers were included with meeting materials.

C. Term Expires

Mr. Parks term expires December 31 and he has applied to serve another term on the Park Board. The Mayor has called for applicants and appoints this position.

PUBLIC FORUM

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Thoreen thanked Park Board members for their time and effort serving on the Board.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The Santa Paws event at Buster Park took place Dec. 14., with 26 dogs participating. The editor of the Minnesota Recreation and Parks Association magazine requested photos and a brief story of the event for an upcoming edition.
- The maintenance staff began flooding rinks Dec. 10. The warming houses are scheduled to open Dec. 20.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. at the Crow Wing County Courthouse (3rd floor) at 326 Laurel Street, Brainerd.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 4:56 p.m. was made by Mr. Boeder and seconded by Mr. Parks. Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Finch, Administrative Specialist