

CITY OF SAINT PETER, MINNESOTA

MINUTES OF THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, August 15, 2022

7:00 PM

Public Works Office, 405 W St Julien Street

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City of Saint Peter Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting was conducted at Public Works, 405 W St Julien Street.

A quorum present, Barb Regner, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Trish Hiscock-Austin, Al Christensen, Brian Fremo, Samuel Mendoza, Darrell Pettis, Barb Regner, and Dustin Sharstrom. The following Board Members were absent, K. Angelique Dwyer, Rachelle Fuller, Ceceli Polzin and Hayley Russell. The following ex-officios were present: Pete Moulton, Director of Public Works and Joey Schugel, Director of Recreation and Leisure.

Visitors – Joel Schmidt, Maintenance Superintendent and Angie Glassel, Administrative Secretary.

Approval of Agenda – Christensen made a motion, seconded by Fremo, to approve the agenda as submitted. With all in favor, the agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes – Sharstrom made a motion to approve the minutes with the suggested change in the Chair's Report, seconded by Mendoza, to approve the July 18, 2022, minutes. After discussion related to the placement and removal of the basketball hoops within Veterans Memorial Park the minutes were approved with all in favor.

Unfinished Business

A. Future Skate Park

B. Resolution – following a staff presentation that included draft concepts, cost estimates and funding requirements a "Resolution Recommending a Future Skate Park at Veterans Memorial Park" was introduced. Four concepts of a portable skate park were provided for review. All four options fit very well and are versatile within the small ice rink. Cost Estimates for both skate park locations (Veteran's Memorial Park and Gault Park) were shared with the Advisory Board; with the portable option being the most affordable. It was noted that with either option there remains a need for community or association participation to proceed. Christensen made a motion, seconded by Fremo, the motion passed on a 6-1 vote.

C. Gorman Park Improvements

1. Concept Selection – the Advisory Board reviewed "Concept – Active Campus" and "Concept - Central Hub". After discussion the Advisory selected "Central Hub" as the concept that best fits the needs of the community. Staff was directed to work with interested community groups and organization and to hold an open house to receive feedback and to work towards selecting individual pieces of the park improvements. Once community feedback has been completed the next steps include a review by the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for further recommendations to the City Council.

New Business

1. Pollinator Gardens – Schmidt shared the maps of four proposed pollinator gardens. Mendoza mentioned that the City may want to purchase some signs to put by these gardens until they are full grown to communicate with the community, as they will look like weed patches at the beginning of growing.

Reports

A. Chairs Report (Barb)

1. No Report

B. Department of Recreation and Leisure Services Updates (Joey)

1. July Activity Report – Schugel reviewed the July monthly activity report and highlighted the variety of summer activities.
2. Summer Programs/Pool Updates – Schugel shared with the Advisory Board that summer programs are coming to an end with the school year beginning. The pool will be closing on Sunday, August 21, and that attendance numbers were higher than previous years. Weather was good and mechanical issues were held to a minimum.
3. Special Events - Schugel highlighted summer events that were successful this year which included “Swim with a Cop” and “Night to Unite”. Schugel reminded the Advisory Board of the upcoming Oktoberfest event in September.
4. Fall Activity Brochure/Registration – Schugel reminded everyone that registration is now open.

C. Department of Public Works (Pete/Joel)

1. Minnesota Square Park Construction
 - Minnesota Square North Plaza Phase 2 – Schmidt shared the contractor will be coming back in install concrete the week of August 22nd with plans to be completed by September 1st.
2. Hallett's Pond Plan Update – Moulton shared that a developer is interested in the private land for sale south of Hallett's Pond. Approximately .72 acres of park land would be gained under the development proposal. Planning and Zoning will review the draft concept and if approved will be shared with the City Council.
3. Park Shelters Update – Schmidt shared with the Advisory Board that footings for the shelters will be completed in the month of August. Shelter locations include Gault Park, Prairie Ridge Park, Stones Park, and Warren Park with installation completed by late fall.
4. A donation from “Down to Earth Landscaping for St. Peter” was accepted to complete maintenance on the shrubs and plantings at the “Veterans Memorial” in Minnesota Square.

Adjournment- Sharstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM, seconded by Christensen. With all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Next scheduled meeting **Monday, September 19 at 7:00 PM.**



Brian Fremo, Secretary



Barb Regner, Chair