

MARION PARK BOARD MINUTES

June 10, 2015, 4:00 P.M.

Thomas Park Administration and Operations Facility

ROLL CALL: Chair Patty Wise, Charles Kress, John McIntosh, Kyle Martin, Terry Sperial

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Mike Carolan, Karlene Hummel, Aaron VanMilligan, Darcie Coberly

GUESTS: Tim Bird, Cleo Close, Paul Draper, Dwight Hogan

Minutes

Moved by Kress and seconded by McIntosh to approve the May 13, 2015, regular Park Board minutes. No discussion. All in favor, motion carried.

Reports

Moved by Wise and seconded by Sperial to approve the May Financial Report. Expenditures are in line with budgeted amounts. Pavilion revenues are a little behind compared to last year due to refunds issued following the flooding in June 2014. Several revenue line items have already exceeded annual estimates. All in favor, motion carried.

The May Purchase Order Report was reviewed and accepted. Carolan noted that the invoice from Graybill Communications was processed for the Safe Room door monitoring system. The new system has saved staff time by utilizing a mobile app to monitor the door status and lock or unlock the door remotely. The Pool concessions refrigerator stopped working and was replaced in May.

Public Input

None.

Request to Vend in City Parks

Tim Bird, dba Peppy's Ice Cream, requested to vend ice cream products at Thomas Park. Wise pointed out the Park Board already has a Memorandum of Understanding with Kona Ice to vend shaved ice in Thomas Park daily from Noon to 4 p.m. The Board discussed possible times feasible for Peppy's Ice Cream to vend and not be in competition with Kona Ice. McIntosh asked if the vending would be daily. Bird replied it would be one to two times per week. Cleo Close drives the Peppy's vehicle in the Marion territory said she would not want to take sales away from Kona Ice even though they offer different products. McIntosh requested that a memorandum of understanding be drawn up. Wise agreed, stating it would be in the best interest of the department to have one on file. Moved by Wise and seconded by Martin to allow Tim Bird dba Peppy's Ice Cream to vend in Thomas Park daily from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. through September 30, 2015, and directing staff to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with such terms. All in favor, motion carried.

Waldo Morris Land Donation for Future Park Development

Paul Draper and Dwight Hogan presented the Iowa Geological Survey of the large rock on the Waldo Morris property located south of Partners Avenue. The rock and area holds great potential for a future park development and Morris is interested in donating the property for such use. The

7.398 acres sits near the Grant Wood Trail, is zoned industrial, is not in a flood plain, and has a retention basin/pond. Hogan said the rock would have an educational and historical appeal to all ages. The Iowa Geological Society and Gem Society are excited about the findings. Moved by Kress and seconded by Wise to recommend to City Council to accept the 7.398 acre land donation from Waldo Morris for future park development. McIntosh asked if staff had any concerns with the recommendation. Carolan replied he does not. Martin asked if the airport would need to acquire more land for the proposed expanded runways. Draper said the Engineering Department indicated more land is not needed. Martin noted the Parks Department is already mowing grounds at the Police Department so it would not be out of the way to maintain this property. All in favor, motion carried.

Naming of Future Parkland

Moved by Kress and seconded by McIntosh to name the future parkland Waldo's Rock Park. All in favor, motion carried.

REAP Grant Application for Future Parkland Development

Carolan is requesting authorization to prepare and submit a REAP Grant application for infrastructure development for the previously discussed future parkland. Moved by Wise and seconded by Sperl directing staff to apply for a REAP Grant for the infrastructure development for the future parkland. Carolan said the application is due the second week of August. He will be asking for approximately \$150,000 to identify a trail around the pond and construct a pavilion. All in favor, motion carried.

Land Pride Tri-Plex Area Mower

In the FY2015-16 equipment reserve budget there is \$15,000 allocated for the replacement of a 14' mower. VanMilligan solicited bids for a 2015 Land Pride AMF4214 Flex Mower, 5 sets of replacement blades, and spare tires with the trade in of a 2009 Land Pride AMF4214 mower. Bids were received from P&K Midwest Inc. (Hiawatha) \$7,682.76, City Tractor Co. (North Liberty) \$11,475.00, and Titan Machinery (Center Point) \$12,117.85. Moved by McIntosh and seconded by Martin to approve the purchase of a 2015 Land Pride AMF4214 Flex Mower, with extra blades, spare tires, and the trade in of a 2009 mower from P&K Midwest Inc. (Hiawatha) for \$7,682.76. All in favor, motion carried.

Linn-Mar School District Facility Use Fees

The Parks and Recreation Department received an invoice from the Linn-Mar School District for use of the tennis courts at Oak Ridge School. Carolan and Hummel met with Rick Ironside and J.T. Anderson to discuss the charges. Previously, the Department and the School have shared use of Lowe Park, the Arts and Environment Center, and park pavilions. Martin said this could close a lot of doors. Carolan said we were not provided the fee structures from Linn-Mar. McIntosh noted that our budget has been set and any fees charged are not budgeted. Hummel stated that while using the Linn-Mar gyms, she is required to have a responsible staff person on site. Martin and McIntosh requested staff to meet with Linn-Mar staff when the new superintendent begins this summer to discuss continued shared usage of facilities.

Receive and File

The activity report from the Master Gardeners was received and filed.

The monthly staff report was received and filed.

Operations staff has been working at the Police Department Headquarters by re-doing some garden areas to minimize maintenance and fixing some washed out areas.

The department is working on developing a management plan for Faulkes Heritage Woods. The department is also considering a proposal from Winding Pathways (Rich Paterson) to do an ecological assessment and assist with development of the plan.

There has been a rash of vandalism recently. Oak Shade Cemetery had some headstones damaged over Memorial Weekend. Hanna Park had some graffiti on picnic tables and trees. A glass panel was broken at the Amphitheater. City Square Park has had a lot of items broken including faucets, doors, locks, and electrical outlets. The Police Department will be providing a security camera to install in the Depot at City Square Park.

The Gill Park Splash Pad came on-line today and within minutes the children were using it.

Youth summer recreation programs are in full swing. Details are coming together for a Movie Night at the Amphitheater. Yoga is being offered every Saturday during the summer at 7:30 a.m. at no cost in conjunction with the Blue Zones initiative.

Summer Safety Night at the Pool was well attended by 60 to 65 people from the community.

A Sun Safety class was organized by the department with St. Luke's Cancer Center. Pool staff, Parks operations staff, and other City departments attended.

Other
None.

Board Discussion Time

Kress shared that the Heritage and Granger House have separated their businesses and are now separate 501(c)(3) organizations. Additionally the Friends of Oak Shade Cemetery have joined under the Marion Parks and Recreation Foundation's non-profit designation.

McIntosh said that the brick at the depot are of great concern to him. Carolan indicated that staff is working on repairs to the bricks around the depot and will look at a larger project that would reset all brick in this area. Carolan indicated this would require hiring a contractor and would need to be a budgeted item.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8, 2015, at 4 p.m. at the Thomas Park Administration and Operations Building.

Kyle Martin, Secretary