

City of Scandia Parks and Recreation Committee
Monday, July 1, 2019

Members Present: Terry Gorham (Chair), Dustin Hegland (Vice Chair), Carol Schwinghammer, Cami Van Abel, Greg Zauner, and Patti Ray (City Council Representative)

Staff Absent: Judi Negus (Office Assistant) and Adam Hawkinson (Director of Public Works)

Chair Gorham called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM

Justin Schroer presented his ideas for a Gaga Pit. It is for an Eagle Scout project. Justin is asking if he could raise funds and place a gaga pit on the Community Center property. He has queried the elementary school, but there is no room. He will seek funding from Menards, possibly the Lions. The committee thanked him for the proposal and stated we will need to consider this in a future meeting. He will need a reply by September in order to complete the project to meet his Eagle Scout requirements. Justin's email is jetson Schroer@gmail.com.

Sonia Borg of the Friends of Scandia Parks and Trails gave an update regarding the butterfly garden at Lilleskogen. Borg stated the group is struggling to maintain the area, and the plants there are not able to overcome the poor soil conditions. Also, some of the invasives in the property are now encroaching on the butterfly garden. She suggested the area may be turned back to the City and the garden discontinued. The PRC reminded her of the work intended for the area may help with invasive plants, and there will be habitat changes forthcoming that may help, possibly to include allowing more sunshine at the park. Zauner suggested the area may be tiled to help the drainage. All agreed to keep the status quo until work is done at the park.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Hegland, seconded by Zauner, to approve the agenda. The motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Zauner, seconded by Hegland, to approve the June 3, 2019 minutes. The motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS

Chair Report

Chair Gorham prepared a written report. Also, Gorham advised pickleball tournament planning is in progress.

Public Works Director Report

Hawkinson provided a written report.

OLD BUSINESS

Lilleskogen Park-Story Boards

PRC agreed to acquire the silver boards proposed by Ray. **Motion by Schwinghammer, seconded by Hegland, to recommend approval of the purchase. The motion carried 5-0.**

Preliminary Vinterfest Planning

Zauner reported a good start on Vinterfest. Possible activities include a cribbage contest and a Kubb tournament. Van Abel suggested "Frozen" princesses would be ideal to add/coordinate with the Pleasant Valley Cloggers. Van Abel will gather more information to provide to the Committee.

Capital Improvement Planning

While no vote / motion was entertained, the PRC generally supported a small incremental increase of the Scandia local levy to support parks. This needs to go to the CIP and then to City Council for approval. The increase will add about \$30,000 / year for parks.

The Committee members discussed better grant opportunities. A suggestion was made to place the Zamboni replacement purchase in the general budget fund, not parks.

Bone Lake Park Trails

Ray shared great participation by Bone Lake Association members on the trail project. Ray reported 28 volunteers helped spread chips, and thanked Hawkinson for his contributions. There are two entries off of Lofton. Next step is getting a survey for the east side.

Bleacher Recommendation for Wayne Erickson Park

The proposal was sent back to Hawkinson. Committee members discussed ways to lower costs for bleacher replacement. A suggestion was to install several smaller bleachers, same capacity, but lower cost due to less guardrails. Removal costs of the current bleachers also need to be confirmed.

Hay Lake Shelter Water Connection

Motion by Gorham, seconded by Hegland, to recommend approval of the agreement with Washington County Historical Society. The motion carried 5-0.

Pleasure Rink Expansion-Tree Removal

Tabled for now. Pending possible Community Center remodel/changes.

NEW BUSINESS

Recreation Programming

No specific recommendations were made. A PRC member will follow-up with the organizer of the Lindstrom walking club.

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

The proposed agenda for the Monday, August 5, 2019 meeting:

1. Vinterfest Planning
2. Capital Improvement Planning
3. Bone Lake Park Trails-Next Step
4. Bleacher Recommendation
5. Recreation Programming

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Hegland, seconded by Van Abel, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Gorham, Chair