

AUSTIN PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2022
JAY C. HORMEL NATURE CENTER
5:15 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Helen Jahr-Chairperson (remote), CeCe Kroc (remote) Chris Grev, Justin Hanson (remote), Nik Johnsen, DeeDee Marx, and Rebecca Waller
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
OTHERS PRESENT: Kevin Nelson, Randy Hofner, Luke Reese, Riley Donovan, Patti Hamilton, Tricia Branden and Craig Clark

Election of Officers was held. Ms. Jahr was re-elected Chairperson and Mr. Johnsen was elected Vice Chair. The other committees will remain the same with new board members sliding into predecessors' positions however a returning members will hold a committee chair position. Approved.

1. Budget - Finance - Claims	CH: Waller, Hanson, Grev
2. Acquisition - Development - Planning	CH: Johnsen, Hanson, Kroc
3. Policy - Permits - Personnel	CH: Johnsen, Marx, Waller
4. Parks - Forestry	CH: Grev, Marx, Kroc
5. Recreation	CH: Marx, Waller, Johnsen
6. Nature Center	CH: Grev, Kroc, Hanson

Moved by Ms. Grev, seconded by Ms. Waller to approve the January agenda with additions. Carried.

Moved by Ms. Waller, seconded by Mr. Johnsen to approve the December minutes. Carried.

Moved by Ms. Marx, seconded by Ms. Grev to approve the December bills. Carried.

MSA delegates Christopher Janson and Claire Michelson joined us to do a presentation on the Parks Master Plan that is underway. They walked thru the process and shared where they were so far.

Moved by Ms. Waller, seconded by Ms. Grev to approve the 4th Ave Fest request for benches, showmobile and free pool admissions for the event in June. Carried.

Moved by Ms. Kroc, seconded by Ms. Waller to approve the annual help for the PTTP events. Carried.

Board reports:

Ms. Kroc stated she's looking forward to the collaborative piece and will be digging in to some of this area to learn more.

Mr. Hanson shared he would accept opportunities to continue participating with the departments and be better.

Mr. Johnsen announced the Disc Golf program received a \$5,000 donation from the Eagles and they were going to purchase new baskets at Driesner Park and next upgrade projects include trees and landscaping to make the play areas and holes more beautiful.

Staff reports:

Mr. Donovan said Dome baseball has started with good participation, Co-rec adult volleyball started tonight with 4 teams (with is a new/brought back program), the Arenas are steady and busy, Archery programs are filled and Paint the Rink Pink is scheduled for 2/5/22.

Mr. Reese shared all 3 action track chairs are on the property, cross country skiing is just waiting for snow and they are trying to start a cross country team, building rentals are getting added to Civic Rec so will be watching to see how that goes, the pond is not holding water well anymore so looking into the reasons why and want to find a plan to fix that, the new intern has started and funding was approved for paving the path to the tower.

Mr. Hofner updated the board with the weather has been cooperative and the crew is getting some needed things done, the Sugar Shack at the Nature Center is almost now completed, the outdoor ice rinks will be getting built soon with the guys splitting shifts, the warming houses will be ready to open as well, the new approved trucks and equipment is getting purchased and getting them may be a challenge with supply issues however the water cart and wide area mower should be available in March.

Mr. Nelson reported there was an extension granted on getting the trees planted for the program however our trees were already ordered.

Moved by Ms. Waller, seconded by Ms. Grev to adjourn the meeting until February 2d at 5:15 PM at City Hall. Carried.

Adjourned: 7:00 PM
Respectfully submitted,
Patti Hamilton