

PARKS & RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

January 19, 2016 5:30 pm

Members Present:

Dan Borland
Mark Calderon
Jane Grund
Brian Hensley
Roger Lonning
Reid Olson
Vern Rasmussen, Sr.
Chris Utz

Members Absent:

Staff in Attendance:

Jay Hutchison, Parks & Recreation Director

Others in Attendance:

Paul Shea, Cellfie Tour Group

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. by Board President Chris Utz.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda was made by Hensley, seconded by Calderon and approved.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Lonning to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2015 meeting. It was seconded by Calderon and approved.

Public Items/Presentations:

A public meeting was held on the proposed Dog Park. The meeting started at 5:30 and went to 6:30 p.m. with approximately two dozen people in attendance.

New Discussion/Action Items:

- a. Request to place a "Cellfie" station in New Denmark and Fountain Lake Park: Paul Shea, representing an Albert Lea group called Cellfie Tours, proposed placing two "Cellfie" stations in two of the City's parks: Fountain Lake Park and New Denmark Park. A Cellfie station is a place where one can take a self-portrait that is often used on social media. A person can also use their phone to obtain information about a particular area or building. Stations are usually placed in locations with unique and photogenic backgrounds. After discussion and questions, Rasmussen made a motion to recommend that the City Council approve the request to place the two Cellfie stations in the parks. Calderon seconded the motion. Hensley asked to amend the motion to include placing a station near the Golden Point Canoe Launch in Frank Hall Park. Rasmussen accepted the amendment and the motion passed.

- b. Director's Retirement: The Director informed the Board that he would be retiring on Friday, February 26, 2016 after 22 and a-half years with the City of Albert Lea.

Update Items:

- a. Request for Shelter in Thomson Park: A group from the Tiger Hills has requested that the City erect a small shelter in Thomson Park. The group will fund raise and hopefully the City will also participate with matching funds. Staff is working on options and pricing.
- b. Arena Bleachers: Staff is working on obtaining specs, plans and pricing for new bleachers that will be placed on the north side of Nystrom Arena.
- c. Hayek Field and Arena Scoreboards: The High School Baseball boosters have raised funds for a new scoreboard for Hayek Baseball Field. Staff is also getting quotes for a new scoreboard in Nystrom Arena.

Board Member Items:

- a. Borland asked that staff explore the feasibility of bringing back "Music in the Parks" that was held at the band shell in Edgewater Park Sunday afternoons during the summer. Staff will look into it.

Adjournment: A motion was made at 7:16 pm by Borland to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Hensley and motion carried.

Next regular scheduled meeting and my last will be Tuesday, February 16, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Hutchison, Director
Parks and Recreation