

PARKS & RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

*June 16, 2015 5:30 pm
Cottage*

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Jane Grund

Staff in Attendance:

Jay Hutchison, Parks & Recreation Director

Others in Attendance:

Bill Howe, Lakes Foundation

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order 5:34 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 Calderon to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2015 meeting. It was seconded by Hensley and approved.

Public Items/Presentations: Bill Howe of the Lakes Foundation provided the Board with an update of activities of the Foundation. He spoke on the recent designation and funding of the Water Trail for the Albert Lea area and also the donation of a canoe/kayak rental station to the City. The station will be installed by Park Staff and should be operational by mid-July.

New Discussion/Action Items:

- a. **Request to establish new dock space:** The City Council is requesting a recommendation from the Park Board on the establishment of a dock space across Lakeview Boulevard from 817 Lakeview Boulevard. The new dock space would be established north of Hanson Island and would be assigned to the previously mentioned address. After discussion, Hensley made a motion to recommend approval of this request. Motion was seconded by Calderon and passed.
- b. **2014 Highlights and Goals Discussion/Questions:** No questions or comments on the report.

- c. **Youth 1st Discussion:** At the May meeting, the Board heard a presentation by Mr. Mark Arjes on the Youth 1st Program. The Board had requested that Mr. Arjes provide them with financial information on the program. Hutchison reported that to date, we had not received any of the requested information. He also reported that he had discussions with the City Manager pertaining to the program and that the City Manager indicated that the City is not interested in participating in the program at this time. Board members agreed with this decision.

Update Items:

- a. **Just Play Festival - June 27:** The Department will hold the “Just Play Festival” on June 27 at Frank Hall Park from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be approximately 30 community organizations showcasing what there is to do in Albert Lea.
- b. **2016 Budget:** Staff is working on the 2016 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan. At this time, it looks like there will not be any large increases in the budget. A priority in next year’s budget will be upgrading our small, neighborhood ballfields that are used by the various community baseball/softball organizations. Rasmussen suggested that there be funds budgeted to upgrade/add equipment to Memorial Park.
- c. **New Skate Park Equipment:** Park Staff has installed a skate park feature called the “Spine”. A portion of the funds for the purchase of this feature was raised by the users and some came from funds that were left over from the original fund raiser for the park.
- d. **Tour of Minnesota Bike Ride:** Hutchison reported that the City was playing host the “Tour of Minnesota Bike Ride” on June 15 and 16. They were using Frank Hall Park as a campground.
- e. **Misc.:** None

Board Member Items:

- a. Lonning had some concerns with parking along New Denmark Park and wondered about cut-in parking along the park.

Adjournment: A motion was made at 6:25 pm by Borland to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Calderon and motion carried.

Next regular scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, July 21, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Hutchison, Director
Parks and Recreation