

PARKS & RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

September 15, 2015 5:30 pm

Members Present:

Dan Borland
Mark Calderon
Jane Grund
Roger Lonning
Vern Rasmussen, Sr.
Chris Utz

Members Absent:

Brian Hensley
Reid Olson

Staff in Attendance:

Jay Hutchison, Parks & Recreation Director

Others in Attendance:

Sam Wilmas, Albert Lea Tribune
Catherine Buboltz, Albert Lea Tribune

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order 5:30 p.m. by Board President Chris Utz.

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

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Lonning to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2015 meeting. It was seconded by Rasmussen and approved.

Public Items/Presentations:

None

New Discussion/Action Items:

- a. Dog Park: Hutchison reported that there was a group of citizens interested in establishing a "Dog Park" in Albert Lea. A representative from the group had planned on attending the meeting, but was not able to at the last minute. They indicated that they will have someone attend the October meeting. There was a short discussion and question period about a "Dog Park". Hutchison suggested that Board Members go on-line and do some research on Dog Parks by the next meeting.
- b. Future of Summer Ice: The Board was informed that there would definitely not be summer ice in 2016 from June 1 to September 1. The ice will be taken out for maintenance and repairs to the system. Staff will then evaluate the need for summer ice during 2017 budget process. Summer ice use has dropped over the last few

years with utility and staff costs rising. It was estimated that the City lost \$15,000 to \$20,000 keeping the ice in for the summer.

- c. Splash Pad: The Director reported that he will be attending a meeting Wednesday, along with the City Manager, with a group of citizens that are proposing a splash pad at the end of North Broadway. The Board expressed general support for the project, but also had questions about safety, location and maintenance. Catherine Buboltz, who is part of the steering committee for this project gave the Board an overview of the group's plans. She invited any interested members of the Board to become part of their group.
- d. 2016 proposed budget and Capital Improvement Plan: Hutchison handed out the proposed 2016 budget and CIP for the Board's review.

Update Items:

- a. Morin Park will be getting new playground equipment. The equipment has been ordered and will be delivered within three or four weeks. The new equipment will probably be installed next summer.
- b. Park Staff will be installing the ceiling insulation in Edgewater Bay Pavilion during the winter. Staff is looking at possibly opening the pavilion for rental around April 1, 2016 and having it available through the holiday season.
- c. The efforts of the Albert Lea Youth Soccer Association to build a soccer complex at Edgewater Park have stalled. The future of the project is in doubt at this time.
- d. Passed out the Department's "Fabulous Fall Fun" program flyer.

Board Member Items:

- a. Dan Borland: Bill Howe was interested in placing a sign down at the canoe rental station to advertise his "ipaddleport" business. Director said he would run it by the City Manager. He also reported that there was group maybe forming interested in establishing an RV park in Edgewater Park.
- b. Mark Calderon: There is a group of volleyball players that would like to see a sand volleyball court placed in the Frank Hall Park area.

Adjournment: A motion was made at 6:55 pm by Borland to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Lonning and motion carried.

Next regular scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, October 20, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Hutchison, Director
Parks and Recreation

