



Parks & Recreation Office – 901 Montana Avenue

January 7, 2025

6:30

## **MINUTES**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Gary Stevenson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Wendy Taavola called roll.

### **ROLL CALL**

#### **PRESENT**

Gary Stevenson  
Bob Bosk  
Jay Bostwick  
Roger Aho

#### **ABSENT**

Anne Pfotenhauer

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Wendy Taavola, Director

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made to approve minutes of December 3, 2024, meeting by Bostwick, seconded by Sjoquist.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Director Taavola shared the application of John DeFiore to fill the Recreation Advisory Board vacancy. Mr. DeFiore was present to introduce himself. A motion was made to recommend to the City Commission the appointment of Mr. DeFiore to the Recreation Advisory Board by Stevenson, seconded by Bosk.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The board reviewed the 2024 Board Member Attendance Record.

Mr. Stevenson initiated a discussion regarding the position of Board Chair. He stated that annually a new chair is elected. Mr. Stevenson would like to step down, as he has been in the position for several years. Cathy Sjoquist expressed interest. Bosk made a motion to elect Sjoquist as the new chair, Bostwick seconded.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

Stevenson made a motion to elect Pfotenhauer as Vice Chair, seconded by Bostwick.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Taavola presented the board with the members who are up for renewal this year: Bob Bosk, Cathy Sjoquist and Anne Pfothenhauer. Each of these members has expressed interest in renewing their seat. Director Taavola will recommend these renewals to the City Commission at their next meeting.

Director Taavola updated the board on the National Fitness Campaign and Fitness Court. The organization is willing to postpone the grant for one year. A new resolution will be created by the National Fitness Campaign to be approved by the City Commission. Taavola requested to create a committee for this project.

The status of the ski hill was presented by Director Taavola. Approximate 30 percent of the hill has been covered with artificial snow. The pond has not been regenerating as quickly as it has in the past. Snowmaking operations are limited to 5-6 days consecutively before the pond runs out. The lack of natural snow to assist in covering the hill has delayed the opening. The board discussed the point at which we cancel the efforts for this year. Being so late in the year, the department will work to open tubes only.

## BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

**Bob Bosk:** initiated discussions on the following topics during the meeting:

1. **Christmas Tree Contest, 2025:** Bosk suggested a contest to decorate more trees at the ski hill.
2. **Orange Cat:** Bosk inquired about the status of the Gladstone logo.
3. **Jones Property:** Bosk inquired about the status of the Jones Property.
4. **Pickleball Court Tarps:** Bosk stated that there are tarps on the pickleball courts that are blown off and need to be fixed.
5. **Campground Committee:** Bosk inquired about the campground committee established last season. The committee shall meet prior to this season.

**Cathy Sjoquist:** initiated discussions on the following topics during the meeting:

1. **Pickleball:** Sjoquist received a complaint regarding users of the courts being bullied. The board discussed the need for court use rules and procedures. Director Taavola stated that the department and the City Manager will be meeting with Rich Beauvais regarding the maintenance agreement for the courts.
2. **Grants:** Sjoquist inquired about what grants the department received this fall. Director Taavola stated that we got the MACC grant for the Summer Concert Series bands and a portable stage and kiosks for the park.
3. **Boardwalk:** Sjoquist inquired about the status of using DPW for the boardwalk project. Taavola stated that the current plan is still working with DPW to make repairs this spring. Sjoquist also suggested using the ISD for building projects as needed.
4. **Yacht Club:** Sjoquist requested that the department communicate with the Yacht Club regarding improvements that have been made and the upcoming projects.
5. **Indian Statue Pavilion:** Sjoquist inquired about the pavilion project and whether it is still scheduled for this spring. Taavola stated that it is.
6. **Harbor Signs:** Sjoquist recommended that a note be added to the harbor packet regarding personal signs being prohibited.

**Jay Bostwick:** No comments.

**Roger Aho:** Aho inquired about the timing of the Harbor project, Taavola stated that the project is scheduled for fall. Pram Shack project. Taavola stated that the project is still scheduled to begin this spring.

**Gary Stevenson:** Stevenson initiated discussions on the following:

1. **Lights by the Harbor:** Stevenson complimented the department on the candy cane lights near the Harbor.
2. **Computers at the Campground:** Stevenson inquired about the computer at the campground and whether it is running correctly. Taavola stated that we installed a new computer last summer and it is working well. Taavola also stated that the department is going to budget for a program that allows customers to book online throughout the year.
3. **Credit Card Fees:** Stevenson questioned whether a 3 percent credit card use fee was charged at the campground and the harbor. Director Taavola will bring the information back to the board.
4. **West Wall:** Stevenson inquired about insurance requirements for the harbor docks on the west side.
5. **Diesel Fuel:** Stevenson recommended that the left over fuel from the harbor tank be used be sold to the city for use in equipment in order to start fresh this season.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the board, Pfothenhauer motioned; Stevenson seconded to adjourned meeting at 7:33 pm.