

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM. by Board President Elliott.

Roll Call: Present: Park Board members, Pat Elliott, Kathryn Lewandowski, Allicia Woodhouse, Mark Chambers, City Council, Parks & Rec Dir. Jodi Mieden.

Absent- Larry Hallett, Brad Wegner, Gary Manning, County Board.

1. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting(s) in lieu of printed copies and approve the same.

Motion by Lewandowski to approve the minutes. Second by Woodhouse. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Update on the Rotary Lights in the Park 2023.

Keith Behling and Richard Wastlick were on hand to express their thanks to the Board and the entire Park staff, Electric Utilities staff, Simpson's Rentals and SWTC Power Distribution Program for working so well together again this year. 25 Rotary Club volunteers donated over 1800 hours this season to set up as it takes a huge community effort to make it happen. Attendance was up 22.5%, with food donations up 19.7% and monetary donations up 37.4%, overall bringing lots of people to town to see the beautiful display. Behling reported that after putting cameras up, he had noticed lots of dog traffic through the trail and he hopes to help promote the park rules that dogs are only allowed on the dike trail. He also mentioned the need for Spanish signage and better signage at the North Park entrance for parking. The club will work with the Parks Department to procure signage options. When asked if they could have the show again in 2024, all agreed.

3. Discussion and possible approval on the following Sanctioned Recreation Group:

A. Richland Area Rotary Youth Soccer

All members agree that there have been no issues with the group in the past and they represent a large population of kids every spring. They work well with RCYBS to share fields. Motion by Lewandowski to approve the Sanctioned Group. Second by Woodhouse. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussion and possible approval of Permit Renewal for OMHS Animal House Food Stand. Per the letter sent from Marilyn Loft Houck, co-chair, the Animal House food stand asks to have the \$50 permit renewed for their 2024 events in the Community Center parking area. The stand will be open 18 days as it has been in the past, starting May 15-17, June 12-14, July 17-19, August 14-16, September 18-20, and ending October 16-18. Proceeds raised are 100% used for the needs of the pets in OMHS's care and have been extremely helpful in that mission. OMHS has always been good stewards of the space permitted and are very appreciative of the use of electrical power and the cooperation of the department. Motion by Woodhouse to approve the permit. Second by Lewandowski. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Approval of payment of monthly bills.

The Board had questions about the ASCAP license and Mieden explained that it was a basic license to play music on City property and special events. The Board wondered why they had never seen the bill in the past and Mieden mentioned seeing the paperwork and talking with Stibbe and was told it was a license for music to be played at the pool. Motion by Chambers to approve payment of the monthly bills. Second by Lewandowski. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff Reports:

A. Senior Coordinator: Heffner submitted written report stating there were some changes with the trips scheduled for 2024. The trip to San Antonia has been canceled by Urban Scenic Travel. She has added three more trips to the calendar. The first trip is to the Diamond Jo Casino on Thursday April 25th and the second trip is June 13th. The third trip is a Brewers game on July 13th. Attendance at the Senior Center continues to grow as well as at the RASC group that meets once a month for a potluck.

B. Parks and Recreation Director: Mieden reported that the ice rink was a bust, but we gave it a try and will try in the future if weather prevails. Cabral is in progress on the Summer Activity Guide design, and it will go to print at the end of March. Mieden attended the WPRC Annual Conference in LaCrosse and made very good connections with aquatic pros and received good feedback. Presenters sent me their presentations if I couldn't attend their class, so lots of good feedback there as well. The entire building except the top ½ has been painted and plans are to leave that color as it is in good condition. Tracy Gobin resigned from Symons Rec Center and I have met with Denise Lins to collaborate on a maintenance specialist and Lifeguard instructors for the future, as well as what we need to program for the future if need be. Lizzie Forehand will be Pool Manager again and will be getting her CPO license as well as renewing her ServSafe license for concessions. Mieden also brought current revenues to show the Board.

Park Board President's report. Elliott reported that we should be collaborating with Symons to fill any needs they may have in Tracy's absence.

Reports, requests, etc. Nothing to report.

Adjournment.

Motion by Chamber to adjourn the meeting.
Second by Woodhouse.
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Jodi Mieden.