

MARION PARK BOARD MINUTES

July 9, 2014, 4:00 P.M.

Thomas Park Administration and Operations Facility

ROLL CALL: Chair Patty Wise, Charles Kress, John McIntosh,
Terry Speral

ABSENT: Kyle Martin

STAFF: Mike Carolan, Karlene Hummel, Aaron VanMilligan, Darcie Coberly

GUESTS: None

Minutes

Moved by Kress and seconded by Speral to approve the June 11, 2014, Park Board minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Kyle Martin arrived at 4:05 p.m.

Reports

Moved by McIntosh, and seconded by Speral to approve the June Financial Report. Revenues for the fiscal year ended at 109%, compared to 98% the prior year. All in favor, motion carried.

The June Purchase Order Report was reviewed and accepted. Carolan noted that payments to Creekside Gardens totaled \$12,926.24 was for spring flowerbed work and materials.

Public Input

None

Gill Park Splash Pad Update

Carolan shared the construction project calendar that will be approved by the City Council on July 10th. HBK is providing engineering services. Bids for construction are due July 29th, with construction scheduled to begin at the end of August and finish mid-October.

Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Bid Review

The service agreement for tree trimming and tree removal was written for a one year term with an optional annual renewal. Breeden Tree Service (Cedar Rapids) and D&D Tree Service Inc (Cedar Rapids) submitted bids. Bids were submitted with costs per diameter inch and per hour rates. On June 19th the City Council awarded the service agreement for tree trimming and tree removal to Breeden Tree Service.

Carolan and Breeden will perform debarking on some ash trees within the next week.

The recent storm brought down six trees in various Parks, one in the cemetery, and three at the pool. There was one right of way tree that fell on a house that Breeden will be removing.

Dress Code Discussion

A Dress Code Policy was brought to the City Council for approval, but voted down 0-6. The current City policy states that the Department Head will set the dress code for the department. Following the council meeting, the City Manager sent a memo requesting Department Heads to submit department dress code guidelines to him for approval. Carolan stated that the Parks and Recreation Department has three classes of employees: Administrative, Recreation, and Operations. He will develop department dress code guidelines and present them at a future meeting. Wise said that it needs to be appropriate for the type of work performed. Carolan stated that there currently is not a written dress code.

Monthly Staff Report

The staff report was reviewed. Closeout items are being addressed for the Amphitheater project; Klieman has to remove the service road and address some tree issues. The screen wall door that broke in June is being redesigned by the frame manufacturer.

The two new pavilions at Thomas Park have grills installed, pathways made, and sodding put down. There are still items to be completed before they can be rented.

Legion Park parking lot repairs will be completed by the end of July.

Staff is going through City parks picking up storm debris. Indian Creek flooding on June 30th washed out Boyson Trail and created many safety hazards in Thomas Park. The department has rented a second skid loader to assist with clean-up. The park and trail system will remain closed until cleanup is completed and all safety issues addressed. Carolan stated that each flood event costs approximately \$40,000 in labor and materials.

Lowe Park road and parking lot repairs and resurfacing is scheduled around rentals at the building. Work should be completed by the end of July.

The Uptown Committee has allocated \$50,000 for bus stop benches. Kress asked about the benches that are at the perimeter of City Park and why they are facing out of the park. He said they should be facing into the park; Speral agreed with that. Wise suggested that some benches could face into the park and some could face out of the park.

There is a goal to have one or two bike racks in every park. The Marion Rotary and the CMPO (Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization) have funding to assist with this.

Creekside Gardens has started work on the Alburnett Road Round A Bout.

The Adult Bag League is in progress and has six teams that play at Lowe Park once a week. The Youth Tennis Program is held at the Oak Ridge School tennis courts and is very popular.

The pool was closed for four days due to a pump failure. There was a faulty starter for one of the motors that burned up. A new starter with electronic override was installed.

The Arts Council has set August 23rd for "Picnic on the Prairie;" a free Amphitheater performance featuring Carol Montag and Carlis Faurot.

The Master Gardeners have negotiated with Linn Co-op to lock in their LP price per gallon for this upcoming winter.

Other Receive and File

The following items were received and filed: Master Gardeners' activity report; a letter from Donna Walderbach regarding a splash pad at Ascension Park. Carolan called Walderbach about her request. Kress said that he would like to see more equipment at that park.

Board Discussion Time

Kress stated that he talked with the Police Department about setting off fireworks in the City limits. He said that it is against State Code to set off fireworks in Iowa.

Martin said that Jon Dusek contacted him about his development next to the Legion Park Disk Golf Course. Dusek claims a tee box is on the property line. Carolan said that he has talked to Dusek in the past and has verified that the tee is on park property.

McIntosh talked to Roger Greer about his right of way tree.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 13, 2014, at 4:00 p.m. at the Thomas Park Administration and Operations Building.

Kyle Martin, Secretary