

**BELLE PLAINE PARK BOARD
REGULAR SESSION
MAY 27, 2008**

1. CALL TO ORDER. 1.1. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine Park Board met in Regular Session of Tuesday, May 27, 2008 in the Government Center at 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, Minnesota. Chair Chuck Jacobs called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with Commissioners Chris Kehr, Michelle Gransee-Bowman, Dan Gardner, Cary Coop and Alternate Kelly Norton present. Also present were Council liaisons Tim O'Laughlin and Tim Lies.

The Commissioners toured Veterans Park and Riverview Park.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION by Coop, second by Kehr, to approve the agenda as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. 3.1. Regular Session Minutes of April 28, 2008.

MOTION by Gardner, second by Lies, to approve the Regular Session Minutes of April 28, 2008 as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Business.

4.1. Park Tour Review.

Veterans Park. The Park Board Members met with representatives at Veterans Park. Those present included Maynardt Bahrke, Louie Lieske, Gerald Meyer and Albert Koepp. The Commissioners discussed the placement of additional flag poles. Public Works Superintendent Al Fahey had indicated that enough room must remain along the trail to allow for equipment to enter the park. Therefore, the Commissioners were invited to assist with a plan to place future flag poles. Gardner suggested staggering the flag poles. It was noted that each flag pole has an honorary plaque, so it would be appropriate to place flag poles along a paved surface only. A trail along the east side of the property line was discussed. Gransee-Bowman suggested a plaza area near the plateau area. Lies questioned the installation of trail for the purpose of flags only and supported a plaza idea, or researching other options. A walking bridge over the creek area would greatly increase costs of the trail extension. O'Laughlin suggested that the Park Board and representatives of the Veterans Club develop a concept plan for Veterans Park. Coop inquired about the MnDOT right-of-way and whether the City received a letter about prohibiting the use of the Highway 169 road right-of-way.

MOTION by Gransee-Bowman, second by Jacobs, to recommend that Gardner, Coop and Lies form a Veterans Park sub-committee and meet with representatives of each of the groups associated with the Vet's Club for the planning of Veterans Park. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Coop volunteered to serve as Chair of the sub-committee.

Council liaison O'Laughlin explained that the City Council may consider budgeting for park development in the future as park dedication funds don't always cover the cost of park development.

Riverview Park. The Commissioners met with Jim Waters, Quest Development, at Riverview Park. Mr. Waters had indicated that he was concerned for the lack of playground equipment being planned for Riverview Park and that homeowners had indicated to him that they would like to see more playground equipment. Mr. Waters also would like to know what is the timeline for the development of Riverview

Park. He stated that Quest Development has given park dedication funds and feels that Riverview Park should be a priority. Mr. Waters asked that the Park Board consider improving Riverview Park soon.

Granssee-Bowman suggested that the plantings in Riverview Park get established this year. Coop noted that the adjacent street needs to be improved before the City will approve the park development. Granssee-Bowman explained that the plantings need three years to get established, which would be good timing for when the park is ready for development. The Commissioners referenced the quote from Applied Ecological Services as follows: herbicide, two applications, \$1,024.80; soil preparation \$309.40, seeding \$1,430.80, shrub planting, 60 each \$6,014.40, plugs, 600 each, \$2,466.00, for a total of \$11,245.50. Maintenance for mowing and herbicide would be necessary in subsequent years. A prescribed burn would occur the third year.

MOTION by Granssee-Bowman, second by Coop, to recommend that the City Council proceed with the plantings at Riverview Park by enlisting the services of Applied Ecological Services as indicated in their quote dated October 10, 2007 at a cost of \$11,245.40. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4.2. Pool Update and Pool Sign.

It was the consensus of the Park Board to add this item to next month's agenda when the pool patio is completed.

4.3. Biking Committee Update.

Coop provided an update on the upcoming bike tour. Krings and Coop met with the Historical Society and they agreed to co-sponsor the Historical Bike Tour on June 18th. Coop will speak with the Police Department, Public Works Department and City Administrator regarding further details of the bike tour. Chair Jacobs has arranged for Penn Cycle to donate a Trek to be given away at the third summer bike tour.

4.4. Hickory Park Update.

The City Council awarded the bid for the 2008 Street Improvement Project that included the bid for the 75' x 150' size recreation rink at Hickory Park. The Council authorized the major portion of the expenditure from the City's reserve fund. Special acknowledgement to the City Council and specifically to Council liaisons Lies and O'Laughlin for bringing the project to this point. The playground equipment is expected to be installed on May 29.

4.5. Tennis Court Update.

Gardner, Kehr, Coop and Lies will re-activate the tennis court sub-committee. Gardner will serve as chair and will be arranging a meeting in late June.

4.6. Highway 25/Walnut Street Trail Extension.

Lies reported that the Planning Commission will be discussing a trail extension along the Highway 25/Walnut Street corridor at their meeting on June 9, 2008. Chair Jacobs requested that the Commissioners be scheduled for a tour Chatfield Park and the river bridge for the next Park Board meeting on June 23.

4.7. Lighting.

Information regarding billing for street lighting and bollards was included in the Commissioner packets. O'Laughlin would like to see the Park Board pursue a lighting plan for the City's trails and adjacent park

areas. He stressed that lighting is an important component of public safety. Staff is to investigate information about existing lighting, including maps.

5. ADMINISTRATION.

5.1. Unaudited Financial Status Report.

5.2. Historical Bike Tour – June 18 – 6:00 p.m. with bike registration at 5:30 p.m.

5.2. Next Regular Meeting – 5:00 p.m. Monday, June 23, 2008.

The Commissioners were reminded of the upcoming bike tour and the next meeting as listed.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Chair Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Krings
Recording Secretary