

**BELLE PLAINE PARK BOARD
REGULAR SESSION
NOVEMBER 10, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER. 1.1. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine Park Board met in Regular Session on Tuesday, November 10, 2009 in the Government Center at 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, Minnesota. Chair Chris Kehr called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with Commissioners Dan Gardner, Kevin Crooks, Kelly Norton and Erik Mortensen present. Also present were Council liaisons Cary Coop and Tim O'Laughlin, and Assistant Planner Andy Villella.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Coop requested the addition of business item 4.4., DNR Trail Update.

MOTION by Kehr, second by Crooks, to approve the agenda with the addition of 4.4., DNR Trail Update. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. 3.1. Regular Session Minutes of October 13, 2009.

MOTION by Kehr, second by O'Laughlin, to approve the Regular Session Minutes of October 13, 2009. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. BUSINESS.

4.1. Park Safety – Police Chief, Dave Lanning.

Police Chief Dave Lanning was in attendance to continue discussion on park safety. He provided the Commissioners with crime statistics for local parks. Chief Lanning said that lighting is a key to deter vandalism. He explained that vandalism often occurs in restrooms and the Highway 169 underpass due to the hidden confinement. He suggested solar lighting, especially in Heritage Square, between the shelters, as it would eliminate the need for electrical wiring. Chief Lanning supports the use of cameras for surveillance.

The Commissioners noted the high vandalism with the lighting in the Highway 169 underpass and discussed possible change in the lighting fixtures. It was noted that an overhead light needs repair at the Hillstrom Historical House in Court Square.

4.2. Riverview Park.

Community Development Director Rosenfeld explained that staff had further discussions with the developer for the possibility of constructing the road to access Riverview Park. The parking lot, sidewalk and road are all costs the developer would incur. Community Development Director Rosenfeld asked that the Commissioners discuss the size and location of the parking lot. A recommendation to the City Council and a proposal to the developer will be made upon consensus of the Park Board. Included with Community Development Director Rosenfeld's memo was an analysis of the estimated costs of proposed improvements for Riverview Park and a concept plan. Staff recommended natural prairie grass plantings, soft-surfaced trail, benches, bike racks, refuse containers, signage, trees and playground equipment for a total of \$67,931.80. .

Crooks questioned whether ten parking stalls is excessive and was concerned that the parking lot will encroach the large oak trees. Coop commented that the location of the sidewalk may need to change to avoid the oak trees. Norton suggested that staff review the parking lot for the best location. Crooks suggested that the Commissioners visit Riverview Park to determine the location of the parking lot and

sidewalk. Coop commented that he believes the Park Board should determine the location of the parking lot. Community Development Director Rosenfeld explained that the concept plan was to provide a suggestion of parking, not necessarily the exact location. O'Laughlin commented that Veterans Park does not have off-street parking and it is detrimental to the park.

MOTION by Kehr, second by Crooks, to have the Park Board meet at Riverview Park at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 21, 2009 for the purposes of determining the location of the sidewalk and parking lot. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

The Commissioners discussed the specific items proposed for Riverview Park development estimated at \$67,931.80. Coop suggested that \$45,000 be spent on playground equipment and removing \$5,000 allotted for trees. The remaining items listed consisting of natural prairie grass plantings, soft-surfaced trail, benches, bike racks, refuse containers and signage totaled \$22,931.80. Mortensen commented that lighting should be addressed for the park.

MOTION by Gardner, second by O'Laughlin, to recommend the expenditure of \$67,931.80 for Riverview Park improvement, with \$45,000 to be spent on playground equipment and the remaining amount to be allocated for specific items at a future date. Crooks and Norton VOTED NAY. ALL OTHERS VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Community Development Director Rosenfeld explained that she will obtain clarification from the developer for the road and sidewalk.

4.3. Hickory Portable Sanitation.

MOTION by Norton, second by Gardner, to recommend that screening be added to the portable sanitation at Hickory Park. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4.4. DNR Trail.

Coop provided a brief update. He explained that the DNR has been focusing on trail extension north of Belle Plaine and has not addressed the extension through Belle Plaine to the southwest. Coop would like the Park Board to make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the trail extension from Walnut Street/Highway 25 to the west to Grove Street.

Assistant Planner Villella explained that Scott County Planning has a search area for trails and he will be attending a meeting regarding regional trail planning at Scott County later this month.

5. ADMINISTRATION.

5.1. Next Regular Meeting – Tuesday, December 15, 2009.

The Commissioners were reminded of the upcoming meeting as listed.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION by Kehr, second by Coop, to adjourn at 6:15 p.m. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Krings
Recording Secretary