

**BELLE PLAINE PARK BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 15, 2016**

1. CALL TO ORDER. 1.1. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine Park Board met in Regular Session on Monday, August 15, 2016 at City Hall, 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, Minnesota. Chair Chris Kehr called the meeting to order a 5:00 p.m. with Commissioners Rachel Kelm, Liann Hanson, Kathy Joerg and Ben Stier present. Also present were Administrative Assistant Pat Krings and Council liaison Cary Coop. Council Liaison Mike Pingalore was not present. Alternate Nick Jensen was not present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. 3.1. Regular Session Minutes of July 18, 2016.

MOTION by Coop, second by Kehr, to approve the Regular Session Minutes of July 18, 2016. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. TREASURERS REPORT.

4.1. 2016 Park Fund Budget Update.

The Commissioners reviewed the status of the Park Fund Budget and inquired about details of the Bolton and Menk invoice and also the Chard Tiling invoice. Staff will provide an update at the next meeting.

5. BUSINESS.

5.1. Pickle Ball Courts.

Krings reported that at the last Park Board meeting, the Commissioners toured the old tennis courts. Commissioner Kathy Joerg and Ben Stier brought up the concept of creating Pickle Ball courts at the old tennis court. Stier submitted photos and schematic of a Pickle Ball court.

The Commissioners viewed the photos. It was noted the tennis courts are located on school property. There has been discussion of a land swap between the City and School District for parcels located within this block. Stier explained that Pickle Ball is a fast growing sport. An elderly couple approached Stier to ask about the likelihood of having a Pickle Ball court in Belle Plaine. Stier said the City of Chanhassen converted tennis courts to Pickle Ball courts due to demand. Coop explained that if the School District and City swap land, then that will determine the future site of the pool expansion. He also recommended that the tennis courts remain marked for tennis, with an overlay of Pickle Ball so that the courts are multi-use.

This issue will remain as is until further action between the City and School District is taken on the land swap.

5.2. Court Square Park Sign.

A number of years ago, during the reconstruction of the TH 25/Walnut Street retaining wall, the Court Square park sign was demolished. Council Liaison Cary Coop brought this issue to our attention. There may be other parks that are without signs and Staff would have to research as to what parks/green space are in need of signage.

Coop recommended a possible design change for park signs. He suggested more glitz to the sign. Staff will obtain quotes for various types of park signs and bring back for discussion at the next Park Board meeting.

5.3. Discussion on Utilization of Land Adjacent to Community Library.

Krings explained that at the last Park Board meeting, the Commissioners met with the Belle Plaine Librarian at the vacant land adjacent to the Community Library. A few suggestions were made, such as a small concrete pathway, seating area for children, painted game table top embedded into the ground and splash pad. At that meeting, it was the consensus for each Commissioner to present a concept for the vacant land.

Coop reported that it is likely the library expansion project will occur in approximately four years, so the plans should not include anything of significant expense. He did suggest a paver chess board, about 8'x8', a cul-de-sac with benches and a fence to the south, along the alley to prevent through traffic. Hanson suggested it be promoted as a "hot spot" for wireless/WiFi users.

MOTION by Coop, second by Joerg, to direct Staff to proceed with moving forward on a project for the land adjacent to the library that includes paver bricks, park benches, and wireless communications to create this area as a "hot spot" for electronic use. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

5.4. Ten Things to Do While You're In Belle Plaine.

Krings explained that Belle Plaine residents recently were mailed a promotional brochure by local realtors Mark and Tammy Kottke, 113 East Main Street. The brochure included a list of things to do "While You're in Belle Plaine." The items listed were park related. The Commissioners were asked to review this list from a visitor's standpoint. A goal of the Park Board is to ensure that each of these sites is presentable and worth a visit.

Coop commented that the Wagner Yellow Barn/Candy Store along TH169 just north of Belle Plaine brings visitors to Belle Plaine. He explained that there is a website that promotes sites and the Historical House and Emma Krumbes apple orchard and scarecrow festival are included in the promotion. A "thank you" letter to Kottke for the promotion of City parks and recreational sites was signed by the Commissioners. There were no further comments about the sites listed on the brochure.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

6.1. Commissioner Comments.

Chair Kehr acknowledged visitor Jeremiah Kornder. He inquired about the goals of the Park Board and particularly the advancement of hockey. He will be in contact with individual Park Board Commissioners and City Staff. This issue may be on next month's agenda.

Joerg commented on the Open Mike program that is now being held at the Community Library.

6.2. Next Regular Meeting, 5:00 P.M. September 19, 2016.

The Commissioners were reminded of the next meeting as listed.

7. Adjourn.

MOTION by Hanson, second by Kehr, to adjourn at 6:05 p.m. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Krings
Recording Secretary