

BRAINERD PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Regular Park Board Meeting
Monday, August 31 2009 at 3:30 p.m.
Brainerd City Hall Conference Room

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Consent Calendar

(All matters listed in this form are considered routine by the board and will be enacted by one motion.)

- A. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held July 27, 2009, as distributed
- B. Approval of the disbursements for the month of August 2009

III. Old Business

- A. Lunkers update – Joel Sutherland
- B. Budget request 2010

IV. New Business

- A. City Charter
- B. Program fees for 2010
- C. Jaycees Park parking lot

V. Director's Report

VI. Public Forum

VII. Additions to Agenda

BRAINERD PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Regular Park Board Meeting
August 31, 2009 at 3:30 p.m.
City Hall Conference Room

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the
Parks and Recreation Board was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

Present were Chairman Marty Johnson, Greg Roberts, Howard "Jiggs" Blanck, Brian Phelps, City Council Liaison Anne Nelson Fisher and Park Director Wayne Mooney. Barb Egan was noted absent.

**MOVED AND SECONDED BY ROBERTS AND PHELPS,
DULY CARRIED TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PRESENTED**

A. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held July 27, 2009

B. Approval of the disbursements for the month of August 2009

OLD BUSINESS

A. Lunkers Update

Joel Sutherland was unable to attend. Director Mooney spoke with Mr. Sutherland, who will try to make it to next month's meeting. Overall Mr. Sutherland was happy with the Lunkers' first season, and is looking forward to next year. The current agreement with the Northwoods League expired at the end of the 2009 season. Mr. Mooney asked for comments from board members. Mr. Blanck stated he would like contract negotiations to be between the Park Board and Joel Sutherland, not City Council. Item tabled to September.

B. Budget Request 2010

Director Mooney presented significant budget changes proposed for 2010. The budget was prepared with the assumption that the arena will not be operated by the city in 2010, and as a result three employees will be laid off. The unemployment budget was increased by \$60,000 in anticipation of this change. The requested amount for salaries has also changed to include six full-time maintenance employees in the Parks and Recreation Department. Ms. Fisher reported that City Council discussed that the unemployment amount should be an expense of the arena fund, but nothing was decided. She thought the Park Board should make that recommendation to City Council. Mr. Blanck made a motion that the unemployment cost for arena employees be moved from Parks to the Arena budget. Mr. Roberts seconded, and board approval was unanimous.

Mr. Mooney reported that batting cage revenue would be absorbed into the concessions budget for 2010. Batting cage attendants helped during busy times in the concession stand this season, and were dismissed if it was slow.

The 2008 net campground revenue has not been moved into the Park Dedication Fund. Due to LGA cuts it was held off, and is proposed to be held off again in 2010. Mr. Johnson commented that with fewer building development fees coming in, this revenue is the only way the department can raise money for parks. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Johnson motioned for the Board to send a memo to City Council to ask that the 2008 and 2009 net campground revenue be transferred into Park Dedication, forego the 2010 revenue transfer, and reinstate in 2011. Mr. Roberts seconded and board approval was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

A. City Charter

Following the July Park Board meeting, a memo was sent to the Personnel and Finance Committee requesting that the Park Board be involved in all decisions and discussions related to park board employees. City Council approved a motion to

inform the Park Board of discussions relating to Park Board employees. Mr. Johnson questioned whether the original memo to City Council relayed the Park Board's concern that we don't want park board employees being laid off because of the proposed change in management of the Civic Center. He suggested sending clarification to Council that the Park Board wants to follow the Charter, period, which states the Park Board will be responsible for the hiring and firing of Park Board employees. Mr. Blanck commented that there are only two ways to change the City Charter, by either a unanimous vote of the council, or a majority populous vote. Mr. Johnson added that the seniority dates of arena and park employees are now separate in the union contract. Ms. Fisher added that the employer also has the right to employ the most qualified employees. She explained why she didn't vote for the motion to follow the charter; because she was fearful of seeing the parks go the way of the arena – outsourcing jobs. Mr. Phelps made a motion to send a clarifying memo to City Council that the Park Board accepts its responsibility of hiring and firing park employees, per the City Charter. Mr. Blanck seconded, and approval was unanimous.

B. Program Fees for 2010

Staff reviewed program fees in comparison with Baxter and Nisswa. A detailed list including proposed increases for 2010 was distributed to board members with meeting materials. It was noted that we never turn a child away from participating in a program due to inability to pay, and we have scholarship dollars available for families in need. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Phelps made a motion to approve the proposed program fee increases for 2010, and Mr. Roberts seconded. Mr. Blanck voted "aye" and Mr. Johnson voted "nay". Motion passed.

C. Jaycees Park Parking Lot

In response to City Council's request, the Park Board prioritized Jaycees Park for paving, with the north half of the project the priority. Included with meeting materials was an aerial view of the park with proposed parking areas and a new entrance on Pine Street. The Board has wanted to relocate the entrance to Jaycees Park from Rosewood Street to Pine Street for some time, and close the Rosewood Street entrance. Director Mooney mentioned the Jaycees make an annual donation to be used for improvements to Jaycees Park. The funds are deposited in the Park Dedication Fund. He will bring that accumulated donation total to the September meeting. He also asked the Board if it had a second recommendation for paving. Bane Park would be the next park to be paved, and Mr. Mooney will bring a similar aerial photo for Bane Park to the September meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Mooney reported that the backstops are installed at the "Garfield Lots". He stated he would research to see if there is something in the archives about a name for this parkland. Mr. Blanck said Joe Gustafson donated the land.

PUBLIC FORUM

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

NEXT MEETING

Monday, September 28, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. in the conference room at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made at 4:35 p.m. by Mr. Roberts. Mr. Phelps seconded.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Finch, Administrative Specialist