

# MEETING MINUTES

**RECORDED BY:** Melonie Trang

**MEETING PURPOSE:** PRC Board Meeting

**MEETING DATE  
AND LOCATION:** December 12, 2012  
Community Center



**ATTENDEES:** PRC Board Members:  
Tom Iverson, Rick DeVore, Darwin George, Mark Wahl,  
Margy Bonner  
PRPL Staff Members:  
Mike Whitaker, Director  
Jon Thompson, Park Superintendent  
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner  
Joe Fedin, Recreation Superintendent  
Lee Stadtmiller, Cemetery Manager

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## **A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Chairman Tom Iverson called the meeting to order at 11:40 am.

### **A. INTRODUCTIONS**

Henry LaFever, Jeff Ballard, Patrick Scott, Rohnn Lampi, Gary Roller, Kevin Funyak

### **B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

*Rick DeVore a made motion to approve the November 14, 2012 minutes with the following corrections: add Margy Bonner and Mark Wahl as attendees and change Patrick Scott from being associated with the Exchange City Golf Course. Board member Margy Bonner seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.*

### **C. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None

## **B. DIRECTORS REPORT – Mike Whitaker**

Mr. Whitaker announced that Mayor Hanel will be recommending Marcia Clausing, Dayton Rush, and Alan King for the three new open positions on the park board at the December 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Mayor Hanel will also be recommending reappointing current board member Rachel Cox and Catherin Grott.

## **C. PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT**

- Henry LaFever presented to the staff and board, a letter from the Boys and Girls Club thanking them for their support in opening up Amend Park as a rocket launch site for model rocketry projects.
- Patrick Scott from Burlington Little League requested that a decision be made regarding the Centennial Park Lease agreement with the Amateur Hockey

League. He said they would like to move forward on some potential changes they would like to see done to the Centennial master plan. They have been talking and would like to look at developing a youth size field, soccer fields, La Crosse field and miracle field.

#### **D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **A. Legion Baseball Proposal:**

Mr. Whitaker said after talking with the City Administrator and the Legal Department, it is more feasible to have Legion Baseball lease land at Stewart Park from the city to build their training facility.

The Board discussed the lease agreement option. The following are their comments:

- Provisions in the lease that would make sure we are not stuck cleaning up a mess if something should go wrong and we get the building. Example: Naval Reserve left us with their building and we had to clean up the mess and asbestos.
- Have a performance bond.
- Some finite time in which the lease is re-negotiated.
- The lease can be an automatic renewal or it can be renewed at a specific time such as a 5 year lease or 10 year lease.
- Want a land request policy in place before making decisions.
- Would like outside groups the option to use the building when it is not in use.
- Must give an annual financial report and update on the facility.
- Want a lease agreement.
- Need to have the master plan updated showing the building added as part of the property.

Legion Baseball's Jeff Ballard presented again their building proposal and requested the board's approval at today's meeting.

Chairman Iverson requested an action on this item.

***Board member Margy Bonner made a motion that the proposal from Legion Baseball to build a training facility building at Stewart Park not move forward until the Stewart Park Master plan is revised to include this property and we get a proposed lease agreement to review. Board member Rick Devore seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor and motion passed.***

***Board member Margy Bonner made a motion for Legions Baseball training facility building proposal project not move forward until the Stewart Park Master plan is revised to include this property and we get a proposed lease agreement to review. Board member Rick Devore seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor and motion passed.***

##### **B. Billings Amateur Hockey League's Arena Project Update:**

Mr. Whitaker said he along with the City Administrator and City Legal Department have sat down to discuss the lease. They have discovered that the

lease with the Amateur Hockey League had been re-assigned to the American Youth Foundation in 2003 at a City Council meeting. He said the City Administrator has contacted the president of this organization and they plan to get back to us sometime in January on whether or not they are still interested in lease agreement.

A question was asked if the lease agreement was still valid since the expiration date for the lease has since expired and several other items in the lease have not been followed. Mr. Whitaker said that we have been unable to get out of the lease because we have not been able to reach anyone from either organization until recently.

City Attorney Brent Brooks said that it is up to the City Administrator and Council to determine if the lease should be declared as expired, breached, or renewable and with whom it would be renewed.

**C. Department Land Request Policy:**

Mr. DeVore suggested for the staff and board to look into creating a special policy for groups or organizations requesting park land. He felt there needs to be a process in place that a group has to go through to secure park land.

It was suggested that this should be looked at and further discussed at an upcoming board meeting.

**D. Rose Pool Waterslides:**

Project is currently out to bid. Mr. DeVore volunteered to be on the bid review committee.

**E. Sale of Parkland:**

Mr. Jarvis said at the last meeting they did a tour of some of the parkland represented for sale.

He said they are working to get an expedited plat for Wilson Park and annex it into the city. After these two are in place, they can look at selling the parkland. The committee will be meeting January 10<sup>th</sup>. They plan to do reviewing of parkland on the westend.

Ms. Bonner said on January 24, 2013 at 6:30 pm the committee and staff will be meeting with the neighbors of Lampman Subdivision to present the options for development of Lampman Park or sell it.

**E. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Dehler Park 2013 Schedule:**

Mustang manager Gary Roller came to discuss event date options for Dehler Park stadium.

As per the request by Gary at the April 2012 Board meeting, the department/Mr. Whitaker is to send him a list of requested dates in the fall for which we would

like to use for event/concerts. Mr. Roller said he works on next year's baseball schedule in the fall and would look at trying to protect our requested dates during that time when he was doing the schedule.

Mr. Whitaker said on October 6<sup>th</sup> 2012 he sent Gary several dates he wanted him to protect for events. Those dates were in June 20, 21, & 22, July 11, 12, 21, 22, 27 & 28, and August 3-6 and 24-25. Mr. Roller informed the Mr. Whitaker that he was unable to protect all of the dates. He said for the dates July 27-28 and August 3-6 they are reserved for the American Legion State Tournament. He said for the other dates he is still waiting for another baseball group to get back to him with their dates they plan to play games. Mr. Roller did say he has been able to protect for the department/city June 13-15. He said there will also be dates available in August after the Legions tournament.

Mr. Roller explained that baseball is played in June and July (approximately 135 games played at the stadium during those months) so it is very difficult for him to protect days.

Mr. Roller did indicate he will get back to Mike with available dates as soon as he has finished the 2013 baseball season schedule.

**B. Election of Officers:**

*Board member Margy Bonner made a motion to nominate Rick DeVore for Park Board Chair. Board member Darwin George seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.*

*Board member Margy Bonner made a motion to nominate Rachel Cox as Vice-Chair of the Park Board. Board member Darwin George seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.*

**F. ACTION ITEMS**

- A request was made at the October 2012 meeting to have Chuck Barthuly from the Better Billings Foundation give an update on the Oasis water park.

**G. DIVISION REPORTS**

**A. Recreation Division-Recreation Superintendent Joe Fedin:**

Recreation Superintendent Joe Fedin written report was handed out at the meeting.

**B. Park Division-Park Superintendent Jon Thompson:**

Park Superintendent Jon Thompson written report was handed out at the meeting.

**C. Park Planning Division-Park Planner Mark Jarvis:**

Park Planner Mark Jarvis printed report was handed out at the meeting.

**D. Cemetery Division-Cemetery Manager Lee Stadtmiller:**

Cemetery Manager Lee Stadtmiller printed report was included in the board packet.

## **I.ADJOURNMENT**

1:10 pm