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PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 5:15 p.m.
City Hall Training Room

Members Present: Susan Reese (Chair), Sean Downing (Council Rep), Brandon Dobbertin
Brenda Gaulke, Jim Nordgren (5:25pm), Patricia LaRue and Melissa Pedrini.

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Cindi Danke-*Recreation Manager*; Brenda Rundle-*Recreation Assistant*;
Amy Peterson-*Development Services Director*; Sam Wessel – *City Planner*;
Nate Croes-*City Forester*; Jason Stroud-*Assistant City Administrator*

Others Present: Rick Cleary-*Kinni Off-Road Cyclists (KORC)*; Jeff Kruger-*local citizen*; Ben
Fochs-*local citizen*

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC Downing/Gaulke to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2019 Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Park Board welcomed new Assistant City Administrator Jason Stroud, and Park Board introductions were made.

OLD BUSINESS

Rick Cleary gave an update about Whitetail Ridge. The Kinni Off Road Cyclist (KORC) group has continued working on upkeep, improvements, and additions. They are still developing a trail around a corn field to extend the trails. The big Border Crossing race was moved up to June 14, upon City approval. The high school league will not have their big race there this year. Smaller events bring in a lot of business to Rush River Brewery. KORC has a one-year reprieve to use Lot C since it has not yet been sold. St. Croix Composite youth cyclists are looking for a spot to practice, and they will meet with Rick later this evening. KORC is working on getting their website up and running. Their Facebook page is kept current. KORC grooms the trails in the winter for fat biking, snowshoeing, and walking. KORC appreciates the City's support, and Reese stated that the City appreciates Rick and the whole KORC organization.

City Planner Sam Wessel shared the Sterling Ponds Park Plan. On the neighborhood survey, the top three requested amenities are paved trail, picnic shelter, and ball field. Additional playground equipment was a close fourth. Downing strongly recommended a dog park, as eight survey respondents suggested. Downing also suggested pickleball courts, but several courts were just added at the middle school, so park board seemed to feel there are enough courts in town now. City staff recommendations in the plan include upgraded berm trees and landscaping, signs, benches, topsoil and grass seed, grills, trash cans, picnic tables, picnic shelter (30'x30'), ballfield backstop with bases (little league dimensions), additional playground equipment, and paved trails along Huppert Street and over the existing Old Jersey Road. These recommendations would cost about \$635,099.00 total. Due to abundance of green space in the neighborhood, the plan also explores the possibility of selling a portion of the undeveloped park space for neighborhood-oriented development. Peterson provided a brief overview of what uses are permitted in the Traditional Neighborhood Development Zoning District.

MSC LaRue/Gaulke to forward the Sterling Ponds Park Plan to City Council with a positive recommendation. Motion passed 7-0.

MSC Downing/LaRue to add an amendment to the Sterling Ponds Park Plan to recommend a dog park in the Sterling Ponds neighborhood in the future. Motion passed 7-0.

MSC Downing/Gaulke to add an amendment to the Sterling Ponds Park Plan to plan for a beginner disc golf area at the base of the future site for disc golf if a disc golf course is ever developed in the Sterling Ponds neighborhood. Motion passed 7-0.

Park and Recreation Board members returned to the original motion to forward the Sterling Ponds Park Plan to Council with the approved amendments to said plan. Motion passed 7-0.

The Sterling Ponds Park Plan will go to City Council in mid-February for consideration for adoption.

NEW BUSINESS

The Kinni Corridor Collaborative Public Private Partnership wanted Park Board to acknowledge the Prairie Enthusiasts Foster Cemetery Master Plan 2018 as a formality, which may help them receive grants. Amy Peterson said there had been an issue with motor bikes going through the Foster Cemetery prairie, so the western portion was surveyed, and letters were sent out to property owners to the north to let them know signs would be going up along the boundary to indicate that it's park conservancy land/no motor vehicles to help alleviate the problem.

MSC Gaulke/Nordgren to acknowledge the Foster Cemetery Master Plan and support for the Prairie Enthusiasts into the future. Motion passed 7-0.

Reese thanked everyone for everything during her years as chair on Park Board. She will continue as a member of Park Board. Park Board thanked her in turn.

**MSC Gaulke/Nordgren for Patricia LaRue to be nominated new chairperson of the Park Board.
Motion passed 7-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MSC LaRue/Nordgren to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Rundle", written in a cursive style.

Brenda Rundle, Recreation Assistant