

**CITY OF MOORHEAD  
PARK ADVISORY BOARD  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, September 18, 2007  
Moorhead Sports Center, 4:00 pm**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Moorhead Park Advisory Board was held at the Hjemkomst Center, Moorhead, Minnesota on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 2007.

**Members Present:** Ron Schneider, Heidi Durand, Diane Wray Williams, Randy Bach

**Members Absent:** Lila Hazemann, Mary Charlton

**Others Present:** Holly Heitkamp, Recreation Division Manager; Larry Anderson, Parks/Forestry Division Manager; Karen Stremick, Office Specialist; Barry Warren, Recreation Facility Coordinator; Gary Prosser, Recreation Program Supervisor, and Councilmembers, Mark Hintermeyer and Nancy Otto

**Visitors Present:** Paul Finstad, YMCA

**2. RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**

**3. MINUTES – August 14, 2007**

Wray Williams moved to approve the August 14, 2007 minutes, seconded by Bach. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Wray Williams wanted to be listed as a concerned citizen in regards to park areas around public housing. Do to insurance reasons no trampolines, swimming pools or other such recreational equipment is allowed on public housing land. Wray Williams wanted the PAB to be aware of this when looking at parks surrounding these areas to insure that the community needs will be met.

**5. AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

6. **REPORTS**

a. **YMCA**

Paul Finstad from the YMCA was present to discuss with the PAB the possibility of a YMCA in Moorhead. The YMCA is currently researching future YMCA locations, one being in south Moorhead and the other in southwest Fargo. City staff met with YMCA staff last year and discussed the possibility of a joint public/private venture, involving the sharing of facilities. The YMCA Board is currently favoring the Moorhead location; however, the capital costs would have to be in place prior to construction.

Studies have been completed by the YMCA that show the projected membership units in Moorhead could be 3,000-4,000 units, whereas in the Fargo location, there could be 6,000-8,000 membership units. The difference in membership revenues would require having the capital construction cost paid for prior to construction. The membership units would finance the day to day operations and management costs but not the debt service.

The City has currently offered a land donation of 13.5 acres in the area of 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and 26<sup>th</sup> Street. In addition to the land the YMCA is requesting two million dollars towards a gym, and a Moorhead Parks and Recreation presence in the building with a separate entrance and office space. If this assistance was not available, Finstad could not answer if or when the YMCA would come to Moorhead, as it would be a decision made by the board. If the assistance was made available, the total proposed facility price would be \$9 million and in addition to the gymnasium and park areas, would include an aquatics center, wellness center, child care and YMCA offices. Future additions would include additional gymnasiums and aquatics facilities. If the land donation and \$2 million "ask" was met by the City of Moorhead, Finstad stated that a completion date of fall 2009 or fall 2010 would be projected.

Finstad was asked if there would be programs offered that would compete with programs offered through Moorhead Parks and Recreation. Finstad did not feel they would offer youth basketball if we offered it; however, no other programs were specified.

b. **Agreement with Clay County for Temporary Morgue Facility**

Past verbal agreements have been made between Clay County and the City to utilize City owned facilities, especially the ice rinks

at the Moorhead Sports Center, as temporary morgue facilities in the event of a catastrophic emergency. Homeland Security has required that the County request these agreements in writing.

Wray Williams motioned to accept the agreement with Clay County, to utilize City owned facilities as a temporary morgue facility, in the event of a catastrophic emergency, seconded by Durand. All votes were in favor, the motion carried.

**7. UPDATES**

**a. Matson Field**

Anderson updated the PAB on the status of Phase I of the Matson Field improvements. Bids were opened for the concrete work and only one bid was received. The bid was approximately double the estimated amount. Additional advertising and announcements were made and bids will be reopened later this week.

**b. Centennial Field Improvements**

The underground work for the parking lot is nearing completion. The next step will be the asphalt work followed by fencing. Estimates will be done for the proposed playground equipment. The roofed shelter will be moved in November.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Schneider adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Stremick  
Office Specialist  
Moorhead Parks and Recreation