

**CITY OF MOORHEAD
PARK ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 15, 2008
Hjemkomst Center, Elm Room**

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 15th day of January 2008.

Members Present: Mary Charlton, Ron Schneider, Lila Hazemann, Randy Bach, Diane Wray Williams, and Greg Lemke

Members Absent: Heidi Durand

Others Present: Holly Heitkamp, Recreation Division Manager; Larry Anderson, Parks/Forestry Division Manager; Karen Stremick, Office Specialist

Visitors Present: Mark Hintermeyer, City Council Member; Julie Goehring; Joel Savre; Jon Evert; Cindy Gray, SRF Consulting Group

2. RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

None

3. MINUTES – November 20, 2007

Charlton moved to approve the November 20, 2007 minutes, seconded by Bach. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

A group of citizens representing Townsite Park and St. Joseph's Church were present to request changing the Townsite Park name to honor fallen Army soldier, Staff Sergeant Andrew Paul Nelson. Staff indicated that that there was a Park Naming Policy that would need to be reviewed. This was tabled for review at the next meeting. Other suggestions were to name a particular amenity at the park in honor of the soldier. Chairperson Schneider wanted to disclose to the PAB to avoid any conflict of interest that may arise, that he was a Boy Scout Leader of Staff Sergeant Nelson's and a family friend.

5. AGENDA AMENDMENTS

None

6. REPORTS

a. MB Johnson Park – SRF Consulting Presentation

Cindy Gray was present from SRF Consulting Group to update the PAB on the process for master planning at MB Johnson Park. She showed the tentative schedule to the PAB which included two occasions for public input as well as two meetings with the PAB, concept plan development, drafting the master plan and

presentation of the master plan to the Moorhead City Council. Gray hoped that the master plan would be available in May of 2008.

Discussion was raised regarding the public open house. It was decided that past user groups of the park, area residents and other who have been in contact with staff would be notified of the meeting and asked for input. Information at the public open house would include, but not limited to, the meetings purpose, history of the park, existing park layout and conditions, potential park uses, and a proposed timeline for completion. It was suggested that when showing the park layout, to show the flood lines to determined actual workable area within the park. The PAB felt that it would be important when showing potential uses of the park to stress that the original character was more of a natural park.

Charlton motioned to accept the proposed timeline presented by SRF Consulting for the master planning at MB Johnson Park and to continue the character of MB Johnson Park to be a natural, low impact park, seconded by Lemke. All votes were in favor; the motion carried.

b. Planning/Capital Needs for Neighborhood Parks

A list was presented on the 2008 capital improvements within the Moorhead Park Division including additional planning work in targeted neighborhood and regional parks.

c. SRF Consulting Inc. Addendum for Additional Park Planning Services

SRF Consulting is currently preparing the master plan for MB Johnson and staff respectfully are requesting that the PAB consider an addendum to that contract to include master planning of targeted neighborhood and regional parks in the Moorhead Park System. SRF has extensive experience providing planning services and has completed much of the research needed from other projects they have worked on to move forward to concept plans.

Targeted parks that would receive the planning work include: Allyson, Johnson Farms, Village Green Sixth Addition, South Park, Morningside, and an analysis of the Downtown Regional Parks including, Woodlawn, Viking Ship, Riverfront, and Davy Memorial Park.

Bach motioned to recommend to the City Council to extend the current contract with SRF Consulting Group for master planning in targeted neighborhood parks in Moorhead, seconded by Hazemann. All votes were in favor; the motion carried.

7. UPDATES

a. Matson Field Renovations

Anderson announced that the last floor was being placed in the second dugout at Matson Field and Phase I was almost complete. Anderson was waiting for an

update for the Field of Dreams Committee on the fund raising progress for Phase II.

b. Centennial Athletic Complex Improvements

Anderson announced the parking lot at Centennial Fields was paved and the ut concrete work for the dugouts was almost complete. The picnic shelter is scheduled for spring along with the playground area. The playground area will have a net over the top to help protect users of the equipment from fly balls. All amenities will be ready for the ASA National Tournament in September of 2008.

c. Southside Regional Park

The Southside Regional Park was not included in Governor Pawlenty's Bonding Bill but that is not unusual. Projects such as these are typically discussed through the legislative process that will begin in February. Hopefully we will know more in late spring or early summer.

d. Log Cabin

Anderson announced he is researching costs to replace the foundation of the Log Cabin and to determine if it is more cost effective to remain in its current location.

e. Metro COG Greenway Study

MetroCog has commissioned SRF Consulting to do a Greenway Study along the river corridor. One of the objectives of the Greenway Study is to connect the river with the trail systems throughout the Fargo Moorhead area. Findings of this study will assist with the planning work currently underway at M.B. Johnson Park.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Schneider adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Stremick
Office Specialist
Moorhead Parks and Recreation