

**CITY OF MOORHEAD
PARK ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 17, 2009
Hjemkomst Center**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Moorhead Park Advisory Board (PAB) was held at the Hjemkomst Center, Moorhead, Minnesota, on the 17th day of February 2009.

Members Present: Rick Stotts, Diane Wray-Williams, Ron Schneider, Randy Bach, Heidi Durand.

Members Absent: Lila Hazemann, Greg Lemke

Others Present: Larry Anderson, Parks and Forestry Division Manager; Holly Heitkamp, Recreation Division Manager; Don Beutler, Red River Softball Association, Mark Hintermeyer, Moorhead City Council.

Visitors Present: Mark Hintermeyer, City Council Member, Don Beutler, Red River Valley Softball Association.

2. RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS: None

3. MINUTES – January 27, 2009

Randy Bach moved to approve the January 27th, 2009 minutes, seconded by Stotts. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Don Beutler, Red River Valley Softball Association (RRVSA) asked that the PAB consider waiving the \$1,000 utility fee from their 2009 contract with the City, for the following reasons:

- The utility fee is in the 2009 contract which was presented to RRVSA in January. RRVSA contends that this does not allow them enough notice to have an opportunity to budget for this expense. RRVSA requests the utility fee be eliminated or defer to 2010.
- RRVSA has made many capital contributions to the Centennial Park Complex therefore they asked that this fee should not be assessed. Mr. Beutler addressed multiple projects that have been financed by RRVSA.
- RRVSA recently hosted a National Softball Tournament bringing economic development into Moorhead. Hosting this event created a negative balance on their books.
- RRVSA was not aware of the process for the PAB setting these fees or they would have made their “case” to the PAB at that time.

PAB thanked them for the information and asked that they provide their balance sheet to the PAB for review while considering the request.

Mr. Beutler also noted RRVSA was interested in the City constructing additional fields in the recently purchased land to the south of the existing fields. Mr. Beutler said that they were very interested in using these spaces and would work towards RRVSA funding additional capital projects for such improvements.

5. AGENDA AMENDMENTS

Chair Schneider entered into the record a letter received from SRF Consulting Services asking for PAB support for the replacement / renovations of the bike / pedestrian bridges between Fargo Moorhead. Anderson updated the PAB on efforts in the metro to get these pedestrian bridges consider for funding in the Stimulus Package expected to be passed soon. Motion made by Wray-Williams and seconded by Heidi Durand to support this request. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

6. SOUTHSIDE REGIONAL PARK BUILDINGS - BID:

PAB members received information on the February 4, 2009 bid opening. Bids exceeded estimates for both the soccer and baseball buildings and together exceed available revenues. Discussed was project financing, extent of the facilities to be constructed, project priority for the two buildings, timeline and expectations of the soccer association, and if design changes could reduce costs.

PAB was concerned that money may not be available in 2010.

PAB affirmed their interest in constructing both buildings and in an attempt to do so adapted the following motion: A motion was made by Heidi Durand and seconded by Rick Stotts:

- The preference of the PAB members was to build both the softball and baseball buildings.
- Request that staff meet with Michael Burns Architect, to make design changes in the plans eliminating items such as the brick exterior, air conditioning, dormers, etc.
- To the extent the law allows, negotiate contract reductions with the lowest bidder.
- Seek to identify additional revenue sources to help finance this project.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. JOHNSON FARMS DIRT PILES:

PAB Members asked about the progress towards the removal of the dirt piles so the leveling and the seeding of Johnson Park can begin this spring. Staff indicated that this work would hopefully be undertaken this spring.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Schneider adjourned the meeting

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Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Holly Heitkamp". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "H" and a long, sweeping underline.

Holly Heitkamp,

Park and Recreation Division Manager, Moorhead Parks and Recreation