

**CITY OF MOORHEAD  
PARK ADVISORY BOARD  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, January 27, 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 was held at the Hjemkomst Center, Moorhead, Minnesota, on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of January 2009.

**Members Present:** Mary Charlton, Greg Lemke, Ron Schneider, Randy Bach.

**Members Absent:** Heidi Durand, Lila Hazemann

**Others Present:** Diane Wray-Williams, City Council Alternate; Larry Anderson, Parks and Forestry Division Manager; Holly Heitkamp, Recreation Division Manager; Kristie Leshovsky, Community Service Planner, Pete Doll, Business and Development Services Manager; Deb Martzahn, City Planner.

**Visitors Present:** Mark Hintermeyer, City Council Member, Rick Stotts, Park Advisory Board Member February, 2009, Addyson Stotts.

- 2. RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS:** Mary Charlton will be leaving the Park Advisory Board February 1, 2009 being replaced by Rick Stotts. With grateful appreciation we bid Mary farewell and welcomed Member Stotts to the Park Advisory Board.

**3. MINUTES – November 18, 2009**

Greg Lemke moved to approve the November 18, 2009 minutes, seconded by Bach. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

None

**5. AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

None

**6. MIRACLE FIELD PRESENTAION:**

Mark Hintermeyer, Moorhead Rotary reported on the progress of the 4 area Rotary Clubs to accept the Moorhead "Miracle Field" as their project for 2010. By accepting this as their project the intent would be to raise all the funds through donations of money or in-kind donations, and to work on the development of the project through design, construction and use.

Three of the Four Clubs have approved this as their project and the remaining club has been contacted but has yet to commit. The Rotary has agreed to purchase a

membership to the Miracle League which should assist with the plans and specification, as well as league development. Next steps would be to obtain permission from the final Rotary Club, get the materials on construction from the Miracle League to develop plans and specs, start the fundraising committee working on ideas, and to work out an agreement with the City of Moorhead to advance construction prior to having all the funds raised. Essential to this project moving forward is to get confirmation from the final Rotary Club.

There is a verbal commitment from the Redhawks but details are yet to be determined as to the level of this commitment. There is a date set of May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 to break ground at the Southside Regional Park as well as an announcement planned at the Red Hawks Game that evening.

**7. PARKLAND DEDICATION AND MAPPING:**

Kristie Leshovsky, Community Services Planner along with Pete Doll, Business and Development Services Manager, explained Moorhead's policy on Parkland Dedication / Fees in Lieu of Land, when a developer files a plat. Moorhead's policy was compared to neighboring West Fargo and Fargo's in an effort to identify inconsistencies yet to allow Moorhead to remain competitive in the regional market. There was a brief discussion about including commercial land into the equation.

Inconsistencies were found when money is accepted in lieu of land and what that monetary amount is based on. There was some consensus that Park Advisory Board members would like to see the amount based on value of the land at the time of the plat, which may or may not have improvements such as streets, sewer and water, etc. Members asked that planning staff recommend some changes to the Moorhead Policy and bring a draft document back to the Park Advisory Board for consideration / recommendation to the Planning Commission and Moorhead City Council.

The new park maps are complete identifying all the new park land that is platted including the storm water retention ponds. Once the ponds were added there is considerably less useable acres to develop in these parks.

**8. Comprehensive Plan / Active Living Grant:**

City Planner, Debra Martzahn provided information on neighborhood meetings being planned to gain input and discuss the work being done on a new Comprehensive Planning Document for the City of Moorhead. Dates and locations of these meetings were provided as well as a brief overview of the type of survey questions being asked of citizens.

A contract from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota is helping to fund this process in an effort to help citizens stay healthier based on the design of our community. In addition to providing parks, walking paths and bike trails, Moorhead can promote health and wellness by planning for destinations (shops, services) and transit stops within walking distance of residences to encourage activity as part of daily routine.

9. **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 they would talk to Engineering about this but believed that this dirt was tied up in litigation with the developer and the City and may not be able to be moved. A report will be given at the February meeting.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Schneider adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Holly Heitkamp". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted by:".

Holly Heitkamp,  
Park and Recreation Division Manager, Moorhead Parks and Recreation