



Wednesday, July 12th, 2023
Grafton Parks & Recreation Board Room
715 West 5th Street
Grafton, ND 58237
5:15 p.m.

Minutes:

- I. Call to Order by Ryer Stark at 5:15 PM
- II. Board Members Present:
 - A. Board Members Present: Ryer Stark, Scott Hills, Cory Burns, Jon Jelinek
 - B. Board Members Absent: Kristi Olson
 - C. Staff Present: William Dahl, Matt Oppegard, Gabbi Holland
 - D. Media Present: Todd Morgan
- III. Ryer asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Bill added Angel of Hope & Corn Maze to the Parks section of the Director's Report. Bill added Circus to Arenas section of the Director's Report.
- IV. Ryer asked for an approval of the minutes from the June Park Board Meeting held on 06/14/23. Cory made a motion to approve the minutes from the June Park Board meeting. Seconded by Jon, motion passed all approved. Ryer asked for a motion for the authorization of expenditures as listed. Scott made a motion to approve the expenditures. Seconded by Jon, motion passed all approved to pay bills as listed.
- V. Matt presented the June bank statement report for the Park Board's review.
- VI. Reports:
 - A. Recreation Report
 - i. Gabbi reported that July swim lessons are going well. Swim lessons wrap up Thursday, July 20th.
 - ii. Gymnastics and Golf lessons both begin the week of July 24th and will run every weekday for 1 week. Golf is scheduled for the morning and gymnastics camp is scheduled for the afternoon. Gymnastics is full with a wait list. Golf only has 10 registered participants across 3 levels. Gabbi will advertise more with hopes of bringing in more participants for golf lessons.
 - iii. Jess Monett found a new helper for gymnastics. The new helper will start with the gymnastics camp and will return for regular gymnastics this fall/winter.
 - iv. Registrations are open for 5k for \$5k. Early bird special, Adults \$40 and Children \$20. The special ends September 1st. Regular pricing is, Adults \$50 and Children \$25. Proceeds from the event will go towards the new pool project. The event is being organized with help from Unity Medical Center and Walsh County Public Health. Linn's Tex-Mex will have breakfast options for sale and Bully Brew will have their coffee truck at the race. Unity is donating \$2,500 for t-shirts, advertising, & banners.
 - v. Gabbi is working on finalizing the registration for a Learn-to-Skate competition to be held at the Centennial Center on Sunday, January 21st, 2024. All levels Basic 1 and above will be able to register to participate in the competition. Figure skating practices will remain on Tuesdays.

B. Director

1. Parks

- i. Bill reported that the tiles for the pickleball courts have shipped. Dakota Fence is done installing the fence between the basketball court and the pickleball courts along with installing a bottom rail on the existing fence around the pickleball courts. Park staff will work on installing the bottom rail on the basketball court side next week.
- ii. Bill is still waiting for the decision from the Recreation Trails Program Grant. Should hear of their decision soon.
- iii. Bill reported that there are still only 2 applicants for the Facility Manager position. The deadline to apply has been extended through August. Applications without a resume will not be considered.
- iv. Angel of Hope design committee will meet this week to discuss the landscaping plans around the statue area. Bill will attend to give advice for locations of lighting features for easier maintenance. Bill shared the latest landscaping plans with the board.
- v. Kennedy is doing a great job soliciting sponsors for the Corn Maze. Banners and posters will be ordered from Morgan Printing by August 4th.
- vi. Marvin's will sponsor the 1st day of the Corn Maze, which is Saturday, September 9th. Marvin's will pay for admission for all who attend that day along with the petting zoo and any other events on that day.

2. Campground:

- i. Bill reported that the park system grant is due Sunday. Bill will submit a grant application for cabin 7 which will have running water like cabin 6.
- ii. The Northern Lights & Rambling Nodaks RV Rally will take place this weekend in the campground. Most of the rally members are arriving tomorrow. Ron Chesla organized the rally. He set up a breakfast area in the warming house along with tours of Marvins, Heritage Village, and Historic Elmwood.
- iii. Express employment is asking for more sites if available. Currently they have filled 42 sites and all cabins for harvest.

3. Pool:

- i. Bill distributed the conceptual overview from Associated Pool Builders and shows the existing pool for reference. Bill has reached out about the possibility of building the new pool in the front of the park along 5th Street but has not received anything from them with that plan. They are still working on a 3D rendering that would better show the new pool. The new pool 0.25% sales tax increase will be on the agenda for the next City Council meeting.
- ii. Cory asked what determines who can be in the deep end at the pool. Gabbi explained that if they are not strong swimmers the lifeguards have them wear lifejackets that are available at the pool. The board discussed past rules from childhood. Gabbi explained that the lifeguards need to enforce the rules to keep everyone at the pool safe. She questions if they have enough confidence to blow the whistle and speak up.

4. Arenas:

- i. Bill received a call from Sarasota Box Office looking for a stop along I-29 for the Luzzalia Circus. Bill shared their booking details with the board and asked if this is something that we would want to allow in the Centennial Center for \$2,000. The board discussed the option and agreed that having the circus in the Centennial Center would be beneficial. Matt will reach out to the booking agent tomorrow to get the circus on the calendar.

5. Athletic Fields:

- i. Bill asked if anyone was able to discuss the Grafton School's curb and gutter proposal with school board members. Scott explained that he could not get a straight answer out of any of the school board members he discussed the proposal with. The board discussed the benefits and the goodwill that would come from helping with the project. The school is asking for Grafton Park Board to pay for the cost of the curb and gutter that would run along the complex softball fields that is estimated to cost \$20,000. Cory made a motion to approve \$10,000 of funding for the school's curb and gutter project at the softball complex from the 2024 and 2025 budgets. Scott seconded the motion, motion passes all approved.
- ii. Bill received an update from the state grants coordinator that the deadline to complete the project and turn in reimbursements is Wednesday, August 16th. If the project is not completed the park board would lose the \$42,000 grant and would have to pay back the \$22,438.43 that has already been reimbursed.

6. Elmwood:

- i. The Elmwood house is busy this weekend with a groom's dinner Friday and the RV Club tour on Saturday.

C. Business Manager

- i. Matt reminded the board that the 2024 Budget Committee Meeting will be held tomorrow (07/13) at Noon. Matt distributed the packet to the board and explained that it was also emailed out earlier in the week.
- ii. Matt distributed the year-to-date profit/loss to the board for their review.

X. Old Business:

XI. New Business:

XII. Public Comments:

XIII. Adjournment: Jon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cory seconded the motion, motion passed all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 pm.