



Wednesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Grafton Parks & Recreation Board Room  
715 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Grafton, ND 58237  
5:15 p.m.

**Minutes:**

- I. Call to Order by Scott Hills at 5:16 PM
- II. Board Members Present:
  - A. Board Members Present: Scott Hills, Cory Burns, Jon Jelinek, Kristi Olson, Darrin Wollitz
  - B. Staff Present: William Dahl, Matt Oppegard, Gabbi Holland
- III. Scott asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Scott added Clover Issue to the Parks section of the Directors Report. Kristi added Softball 1<sup>st</sup> Base Placement to the Recreation Report.
- IV. Scott asked for a motion for nomination for Park Board President. Jon nominated Kristi for Park Board President. Seconded by Scott, motion passed all approved. Kristi asked for a motion for nomination for Park Board Vice President. Jon made a motion to nominate Scott as Park Board Vice President. Seconded by Cory, motion passed all approved.
- V. Kristi assigned committee chairs as listed:
  - A. Cory – Facilities Chair
  - B. Jon – Programs Chair
  - C. Scott – Budget Chair
  - D. Darrin – Personnel Chair
- VI. Matt Olson let Matt Oppegard know that he had nothing to report at this time. Due to conflicting schedules, Dave Hills with the Grafton Blue Line Club and Ryan Dusek with Bremer Bank have been unable to meet to discuss the loan options. Matt Olson hopes to be at our next board meeting in August with updates.
- VII. Kristi asked for an approval of the minutes from the June Park Board Meetings held on 06/11/24. Cory made a motion to approve the minutes from the June Park Board meeting. Seconded by Jon, motion passed all approved.
- VIII. Kristi asked for a motion for the authorization of expenditures as listed. Scott made a motion to approve the expenditures as listed. Seconded by Jon, motion passed all approved to pay bills.
- IX. The June bank statement reports were distributed to the Park Board for their review.
- X. Reports:
  - A. Recreation Report
    - i. Gabbi reported that session 2 golf lessons have started. Ainsly and Aden are doing well, but she does have some pointers for them. That she will share before the next practice.
    - ii. Summer Intro to Gymnastics is full, but Gymnastics 1 only has 6 registered. Gabbi posted reminders that gymnastics camp starts next week. She thought

moving the lessons to the evening would have helped numbers, but so far it does not appear so.

- iii. Session 2 swim lessons start next week. All levels are full except for Level 2. Gabbi has the schedule on Homebase and the Lifeguards have picked up all open shifts.
- iv. The lifeguards are doing well. Gabbi has been getting reports that they have been doing a good job stopping rough housing.
- v. Gabbi explained that the only issue at the pool that she is having is with the Migrant School. This year they are bringing over 60 kids 1 to 2 times a week. They are being charged \$50 each time they go to the pool, which was a price that was set in previous years when they brought less kids. Gabbi would like to see that price increase due to the amount of strain it has on the lifeguards. The Board agreed that the price needed to be increased for next year. The board discussed a couple pricing options. Bill, Matt, and Gabbi will come up with next year's rate and relay that back to the school for budgeting purposes.
- vi. Kristi explained that she received another complaint that the 1<sup>st</sup> base was installed incorrectly again for softball. This time an opposing team logged a complaint to the softball league who relayed a stern warning to the Ball Diamond Boosters. Bill explained that he will have Rick verify that it is done correctly next time.

## B. Director

### 1. Parks

- i. Scott asked if there will be anything done about the clover growing in the park. He is noticing it becoming a larger issue if left untreated but understands that it cannot be treated with the flowerbeds in bloom. Park staff will have the park treated for clover this fall.
- ii. Bill reported that the Harmony Park equipment has arrived. The sidewalk will be formed and poured in the next couple of days.
- iii. The Grafton Park Board was awarded the Tree Equity Grant for \$25,000. Walsh County Soil Conservation will plant 50 new trees in Leistikow Park along with deer protection and an additional 10 apple trees in the Community Orchard.
- iv. The Westview sidewalk bid was awarded to P&G Construction. Bill is expecting the sidewalk to be done late summer or early fall.
- v. Bill cut the corn maze in the corn field on the west edge of Leistikow Park. The park staff will form and pour a concrete slab for the playground equipment that was donated by the city. Bill and Rick will stake out the location next week.
- vi. The Schumacher Park sidewalk was installed today. The sidewalk was removed to repair a water line break last summer.
- vii. The swing set was installed at Pumkin Park. Bill noticed that we are missing a hardware kit for the seesaw and has contacted the manufacturer of the equipment to have a new hardware kit sent out.

### 2. Campground:

- i. Airstream Club was impressed with Leistikow Park. They sent a card and \$100 donation to the pool project fund. The Park Board extended a thank you to the Airstream Club for their donation.

### 3. Pool:

- i. Bill reported that Choice Financial donated \$150 of their Jeans Day fund to the pool project fund. The Park Board extended a thank you to Choice Financial for their donation.
- ii. The sales tax increase will take effect until October 1<sup>st</sup>. Bill discussed the payment options with Nick Ziegelmann. The pool project sales tax will be

issued monthly to the Grafton Parks & Recreation Foundation who will manage all funds for the pool project. Bill explained that Matt will have a report for the board so they can be updated regularly as to the status of the pool fund.

- iii. Bill met with KLJ Engineering and Associated Pool Builders to start the design process. They understand that the meeting was preliminary and that the sales tax funds will not start to come in until late 2024 to early 2025.
- iv. Bill has reached out to the Red River Regional Counsel to discuss their grant writing services. Bill explained that he can write grants, but for a project of this scope there will need to be multiple grants to fund a multi-million-dollar project. Bill also noted that the Park Board will probably need to hire someone to solicit donations for the project as well.

4. Arenas:

- i. Bill distributed a photo of the brine leak found that is coming from a temperature sensor probe in the equipment room. Modern Mechanical explained that the seal must have been bad before but did not leak due to the air in the system. Once they removed all the air from the system the brine filled all the pipes and that's when the leak started to seep out. Lunseth Plumbing sent their plumber that does all the plumbing work at the Ralph Engelstad Arena. He will install t's into the pipe for the sensors which seal much better than the probe being threaded directly into the PVC pipe. The work will be completed next month after Lunseth Plumbing can get caught up with projects that were put on hold for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday weekend. Grafton Blue Line Club will fund the repairs.

5. Athletic Fields:

- i. The 8<sup>th</sup> Street Scoreboard will have power to it next week. There will also be power at each dugout since the scoreboard controller needs to be plugged into power.

6. Elmwood:

- i. The Elmwood Board is excited for how well attended Rhubarb Fest was this year. All proceeds help cover the costs of upkeep of Historic Elmwood.
- ii. The Elmwood Board will apply for the Grafton Community Foundation Grant to help fund the \$6,500 repair of flat porch roof when the application period opens next month. Bill will let the Park Board know if they are awarded the grant.

C. Business Manager

- i. Matt distributed the preliminary reports for the 2025 Budget and asked the board to review in preparation for the Budget Committee Meeting set for Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at Noon at the Grafton Parks Office (715 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street).
- ii. Matt found that the Giving Hearts Day application fee is \$825 and must be paid by August 30<sup>th</sup>. The board agreed that this would be a good way to raise funds for the pool project and would like to move forward with the application process. Matt will complete the application and send in with payment.

X. Old Business:

XI. New Business:

XII. Public Comments:

XIII. Adjournment: Cory made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jon seconded the motion, motion passed all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 pm.