

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the Brainerd Park Board was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Board President Rushmeyer.

Upon roll call, the following board members were noted present: Miller, Schaefer, Shipe, Yeager, and Rushmeyer.

Also noted present were City Administrator Bergman, City Engineer/Public Works Director Dehn, Community Development Director Kramvik, and Recreation Coordinator Kaufman.

Board President Rushmeyer opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Public Works Director Dehn administered the Oath of Office to Johnathan Miller.

Election of Officers

BOARD PRESIDENT RUSHMEYER NOMINATED SHIPE FOR BOARD PRESIDENT. SECONDED BY MILLER, ALL IN FAVOR.

RUSHMEYER NOMINATED SCHAEFER FOR BOARD VICE PRESIDENT. SECONDED BY YEAGER, ALL IN FAVOR.

Approval of the Agenda - Approved

MOVED AND SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBERS YEAGER AND SCHAEFER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

Approval of the Consent Calendar - Approved

MOVED AND SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBERS YEAGER AND MILLER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 20, 2022

B. Approval of the Disbursements for January 2023

New Business

Approve 2023 Tree Plantings

Director Kramvik discussed staff recommendations for tree planting in Memorial, Jaycees and Gregory Parks. After looking at each park map and what types of plants were suggested, the Park board made decisions on how to proceed with tree orders.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBERS RUSHMEYER AND YEAGER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENATION OF THE GENERAL QUANTITY, SPECIES, AND PLACEMENT OF TREES WITHIN THE PARKS SYSTEM AS PART OF THE 2023 TREE PLANTING ORDER WITH THESE ADDITIONS: REMOVE THE BUDGETED TREES FROM THE SOCCER FIELDS AT JAYCEES PARK AND PLANT AT MEMORIAL PARK INSTEAD ON THE WEST SIDE OF FIELDS 1 AND 2 IF ROOM ALLOWS. LOOK AT PRUNING EXISTING TREES BEFORE REMOVING BETWEEN FIELDS. ADD TREES BETWEEN THE

PAVILION AND THE WARMING HOUSE IN GREGORY PARK AND ALSO ADD 2 MORE TREES TO THE SOUTH PARKING LOT KIOSKS AT MEMORIAL PARK.

Discussion on Emerald Ash Borer

Director Kramvik discussed the Emerald Ash Borer Grant to manage EAB in Brainerd's public trees. EAB runs rampant in high density Ash populations and trees cannot survive once infected. Staff is ready for the next step in the grant program which is writing an EAB policy for public tree management. This highly effective treatment for the trees would be required to happen every year in perpetuity. Kramvik said his main concern is Kiwanis Park which has mostly all Ash trees.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY YEAGER AND RUSHMEYER, DULY CARRIED, TO MOVE FORWARD WITH OPTION 2, REMOVE DISTRESSED ASH TREES AND REPLACE THEM WITH OTHER TREE SPECIES. REMOVE SELECT ASH TREES IN LOCATIONS WITH HIGH DENSITY AND TREAT/INJECT DESIRABLE TREES.

Discussion on Parks Lighting Standards

Director Dehn discussed a recent work group that met on color temperature standards in the City of Brainerd. It was widely recommended to adopt color temperature standards City-wide of 3,000 Kelvin. Dehn was asking the Park Board to approve a lighting design standard within the parks of Brainerd.

The Park Board suggests moving forward with a color temperature standard of 3,000 Kelvin with a dimmable option. The Pole/Fixture style placed in MLT Park can also be used as a set design standard for any park projects going forward. Decisions on placement in each park would still be made at Master Park planning sessions. The board agrees that Gregory Park or Kiwanis Park would be a great option to test the dimmable lights.

Dehn said he would draw a proposed formal policy up to bring before the board for approval.

MLT Proposed Use of Remaining LCCMR Funds

Director Dehn discussed with LCCMR staff on what the remaining funds could be used for. He recommends a water bottle filler, play area with a fence along the bank of the river, and the potential for art and sculptures in the park. These would fit into the scope of work in the grant.

This project can extend until June 30, 2024 to expend funds. Dehn does not believe the current contractor would be available to do work for that amount of time. Rushmeyer would like to see this go back to the original MLT planning committee for further discussion. Yeager also stated that spending more money now requires more maintenance in perpetuity. Do we really need to spend more money and leave our future generations with these projects to continually maintain? Yeager and Rushmeyer plan to be on the planning committee again and they set a date to discuss for Wednesday, February 15th, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Recommend City Code Revision For Sale And Consumption Of Alcohol in Parks

Dehn presented a revision to the policy of the sale and consumption of alcohol in City parks. Discussion was had and the board agrees alcohol should be allowed provided the sale and consumption of alcohol is attached to an organizer of an event and the vendors have the liquor license. The board does not agree with enforcing consumption in limited areas. They would like to see the use of alcohol throughout the parks for an event. Dehn said he would discuss liability
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with the city attorney regarding consumption within limited areas. Dehn will present the draft to the City Council at next council meeting for review.

Approve Joint Workshop of Park Board and Brainerd City Council

MOVED AND SECONDED BY YEAGER AND SCHAEFER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE JOINT WORKSHOP WITH CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

Approve Facility Permit- Two Paddles Event at Lum Park

MOVED AND SECONDED BY YEAGER AND MILLER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE FACILITY PERMIT FOR THE TWO PADDLES EVENT AT LUM PARK.

Approve Facility Permit- Brainerd Lakes Pride Event at Gregory Park

MOVED AND SECONDED BY YEAGER AND MILLER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE FACILITY PERMIT FOR THE BRAINERD LAKES PRIDE EVENT AT GREGORY PARK.

Approve BBB and BBBA 2023 Contracts

MOVED AND SECONDED BY YEAGER AND MILLER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE BOTH AGREEMENTS WITH BBB AND BBBA FOR THE USE OF CITY OWNED EQUIPMENT FOR FIELD MAINTENANCE IN 2023.

Discussion on Park Planning Timeline

Director Dehn discussed setting a park planning timeline in order to develop the Capital plan to roll it into a 30-year plan. Initial budget is presented to Council in Spring and reaffirmed before August 31st. February, March, April meetings would finish Park Planning sessions and May, June, and July work on the Capital improvement plan. Schaefer asked if they could revisit concessions in a meeting as well. Kaufman asked Dehn if we could layout a meeting plan over the next few months so everyone can put the dates on calendar.

Discussion on MLT Grand Opening/ Ribbon Cutting

Recreation Coordinator Kaufman discussed a potential date of Saturday, June 3rd for the Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting at MLT Park. She asked the board for ideas and suggestions, confirmation of the date, and what the board would like to budget for this event.

Board is thinking highlighting the education, band, kayak launch, and make the event a little more upscale for this park. Dehn said money could be requested from City Council for funding. Board decided more discussion should be had at the MLT Planning meeting on February 15th, 2023.

Public Forum

The Chair opened and closed the Public Forum at 5:50 p.m.

Board Member Reports

Schaefer would like to investigate the Concessions topic more soon. Yeager commented on the great turnout at the ice rinks this winter. Miller mentioned how great all the social media

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posts have been regarding our parks and ice rinks. Shipe said the string lights at Gregory Park are still his favorite thing in the park.

Staff Reports

Kaufman went over her recreation updates. Ice rinks have been seeing record numbers this year. Youth and adult pond hockey is underway and going well. New jerseys and hockey equipment were purchased for the youth pond hockey program. The Valentine's Day Skating Party is scheduled for Sunday, February 12th from 1-4 pm.

Dehn went over the maintenance report, with the crew spending time on ice rinks, and helping to clear snow. Dehn asked the Board their thoughts about Memorial trees and benches at the new MLT Park. The Board thinks this should be brought up to the MLT planning meeting in February as well. Dehn said that Memorial Park and Jaycees Park concessions flooring need to be up to code with epoxy, something to think about as they continue the concessions conversations. Kiwanis Park is wrapping up quickly, they are working on interior paint currently. MLT Park is also progressing with the nicer winter weather.

Adjourn

MOVED AND SECONDED BY YEAGER AND SCHAEFER, DULY CARRIED, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:09 P.M. TO SPECIAL PARK BOARD MEETING ON FEBRUARY 7, 2023 AT 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cari LaRose, Administrative Specialist