

BRAINERD PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Special Park Board Meeting
September 3, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.
Widseth Smith Nolting Conference Room

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the special meeting of the
Parks and Recreation Board was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present were Vice-President Kara Schaefer, Dale Parks, Kevin Yeager, Tim Boeder, City Council Liaison Dave Badeaux and Park Director Tony Sailer. Also noted present was Joe Dubel from Widseth Smith Nolting. Troy Rushmeyer was noted absent.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Memorial Park Project

Mr. Sailer reported that a meeting with Mike Higgins from Brainerd Industrial Center to discuss the Memorial Park parking lot didn't take place due to Troy Rushmeyer's absence. He will try to arrange a meeting with Mr. Higgins this week, and Mr. Yeager volunteered to represent the Park Board if his schedule allows. Mr. Yeager met with two local paving companies to assess the condition of the parking lot. He provided a spreadsheet with multiple resurfacing options and the associated estimated costs and projected lifespans for each. Both companies felt the parking lot was in good shape but it hasn't been maintained.

Mr. Dubel and board members discussed what the actual value of the parking lot property is versus the \$300,000 that Mr. Higgins is asking. They looked online at the property tax information that values the land at less than \$3,500 per acre. Staff will find out what it is zoned. The committee agreed it needs to know the status of the parking lot before it can move forward with designs for the park. It also needs to know how much City Council is going to budget for the project for 2020, so they can plan construction accordingly. It was reiterated that the Memorial Park project can be constructed in phases, as the City has Mill Avenue Park leased through March 2021. It was also noted that the Memorial Park redesign can be accomplished without the existing parking lot. The Park Board has requested \$2.5M in 2020 capital funds, which is on the agenda for this evening's City Council meeting.

Mr. Dubel presented options for placement of the hockey rinks and parking areas. It was discussed that the four softball fields don't necessarily have to be a perfect cloverleaf as long as there is a central hub for the restroom and concession building.

Mr. Yeager shared information from the community of Byron, MN, that recently built a four-plex softball field facility. Byron puts temporary hockey rinks on top of the parking lot and rents a construction trailer for a warming house/restroom during the hockey season. Committee members liked the idea of the construction trailer, at least until the budget would allow for a permanent warming house/restroom building to be built.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC FORUM

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. at the Conference Room at Widseth Smith Nolting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made at 5:00 p.m. by Mr. Boeder and seconded by Mr. Parks. Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Finch, Administrative Specialist