

# CHISAGO COUNTY PARK BOARD OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, October 17, 2019

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At 3:00 pm, Thursday, October 17, 2019, Chairman Storm called the meeting of the Chisago County Park Board of Directors with the following members present: Frank Storm, Dan Kaiser, Gregg Carlson, Jill Sicheneder. Absent: Jolene Wille (excused). Also present: Joe Tart; Park Director, Diane Sander; Support Specialist, County Commissioners Mike Robinson, Kurt Schneider, Environmental Services Director, Joe Sausen; Chisago County Parks & Trails (CCPT) Foundation, and Laird Mork.

## Meeting Summary:

- Unanimously the Board approved agenda.
- Unanimously the Board approved September 19, 2019 meeting minutes.
- By consensus, the Board approved moving forward with the purchase of the playground equipment that is not purple in color.

Meeting was called to order by the Chair.

Motion by Dan Kaiser to approve the meeting agenda. Second by Gregg Carlson and carried unanimously.

Motion by Dan Kaiser to approve the September 19, 2019 meeting minutes. Second by Gregg Carlson and carried unanimously.

## Staff Report

*Fall Projects* - Installing new underground electrical line from building to pavilion at Fish Lake Park. Power washing buildings, shelters, park benches, and tables. Weather permitting in, hoping to do some painting and staining. Starting to winterize buildings by removing trash cans, draining water lines, and pulling out the dock at the boat launch. Staff is hanging necessary signage for hunting and snowmobiling. Also, considering renting an excavator and digging up the water line at the maintenance facility to either repair and/or replace for better water pressure.

*Kost Dam Park Hiking Trail* – Director Tart discussed the erosion problem on the trail and seeding done to repair the area. Photos of before and after were displayed. Someone was on the trail with a chainsaw and used it to cut and remove logs that were installed for the erosion control project. As long as there is a trail, the site will always have erosion. One possible solution would be to remove the trail.

*Chisago County Parks Pollinator & Habitat Program* – The project has been completed in North Branch along the Sunrise Prairie Regional Trail and Kost Dam Park. Native prairie grasses are going in and overall seems to be going good. Some education will need to be done to shift the perception of weeds to pollinator and habitat. Next year will be mowing followed by prescribed burning.

*Capital Expenses* – Director Tart reviewed the budget and explained future capital expenses. It is putting together a list of items needed to complete projects for the next four years. Requesting input from the board to help prioritize projects. It was noted \$5,000 for a well was in the CCPT Foundation at Dennis Frandsen Park. Copy of the capital expenses will be sent in the next board packet. General discussion held on rescuing the swimming raft in Fish Lake.

*Playgrounds* – Pictures were displayed identifying current playground equipment at Checkerboard Park. Anticipating replacing some aging components and possible relocation of playground equipment. Future site would be in the volleyball area. Good site since it is higher ground and would not get flooded out and allows for expansion of future components. Playground would be geared towards the age group for 2-5 year olds, no exposed hardware, and engineered mulch underneath it. Funding for the replacement equipment would be coming from the grounds maintenance budget. Pictures of multiple playgrounds to viewed for the board to choose from. By consensus, the Board approved moving forward with the purchase of the playground equipment that is not purple in color.

*Master Plans* – Planning on finishing up the Master Plan this coming winter. It was started in 2017 and there has been some changes since then. The content is there it just needs some final touches added and submitted. Once the review has been completed, hope for approval to move forward with grant applications.

Ki-Chi-Saga Bike Path – Bike path is about 50% complete.

*Staffing* – Working with STS crew to complete fall projects along with some painting projects.

*Parks & Trail Maintenance* – Finished covering up graffiti under the bridges, repairing benches, and painting.

*Kost Dam Park* - Cleaning out drain tile but having trouble finding location of tile and mud-jacking the ramp.

*Fish Lake* – Maintaining playground equipment, filling cracks on the shelters and buildings, and took care of the beaver problem.

Checkerboard Park – Grading the parking lot and adding black dirt.

Dennis Frandsen Park – Still working on storm cleanup. Identified the need to repair and raise trail bridge.

Ki-Chi-Saga Park – High school cross country event had a big turnout. Making repairs and keeping up with maintenance to help increase park use. It was identified that some potholes need to be filled.

Dan Kaiser inquired about the land acquisition neat to Checkerboard Park. Application has been applied, funding will need to be determined. If acquired, it could become another regional park.

General discussion was held on the Fish Lake water testing.

## **Adjourn**

Motion by Kaiser to adjourn the meeting agenda. Second by Sicheneder and carried unanimously. Next meeting is November 21, 2019.