

Park and Recreation Committee Meeting

Minutes

March 25th, 2019

5:30PM

Present: Kysa Rasmussen, Tami Christensen, Janet Sergent

Absent: None

Visitors:

Mayor Norby, Clerk/Treasurer Redfield, PWD Hintz, George Biebl

Sidney Tiger Sharks: Sean Dodds, Zachery Sverdrup

Richland County Baseball: Brent Sukut, Travis Bower

- 1. Sidney Tiger Sharks Swim Team:** Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that the Tiger Sharks Swim Team brought concerns before the Park and Rec Board, and so she felt the committee should hear them also. Mr. Dodds stated they turned in their signed agreement with the changes the Park and Rec Board approved, and they are good with those changes that include limiting people on dock, as they have been doing that already. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that there was also concerns with the longevity of the pool, and Mr. Dodds stated that Candy and Russ Markwald (previous managers of the Svarre Pool) had indicated that the pool has only 5-6 years left in its lifespan, and that they are concerned with purchasing a \$50,000 to \$80,000 new dock that would be specifically for a pool that might not be around in 10 years. Alderwoman Christensen stated that she felt that everyone needed to keep an open mind about that and to keep discussing that. Mr. Dodds stated they have started the fundraising for a new dock, and Mr. Sverdrup stated that he has contacted a structural engineer in town that might help. Mr. Biebl stated that with the concern of how long the pool would last, he would suggest the City keeping it in mind that by creating a shorter pool when it needs to be redone, a dock would not be necessary, and that a smaller pool would be less costly for the City. PWD Hintz stated that the pool is at 26 years and that it is showing its age, but that there is still a lot of life left in it that can be extended by doing improvements. He stated that the pool has been very well cared for that helps it life expectancy, and that he feels the Swim Team can plan a dock for the long term, as even if the pool is redone it will probably be the exact same footprint for cost saving. Mr. Dodds stated they will keep working on the new dock and deciding what they want and need.
- 2. Richland County Baseball:** Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that the RC Baseball needs to be revised to include Water Tower Park for t-ball, and that other than discussing the payment to RC Baseball for the upkeep of the fields, she doesn't believe anything else needs to be changed. Mr. Bower stated that he had some questions and concerns about the agreement, and that one is if the RC Baseball has turned in a financial report as is required. C/T Redfield stated that they have turned in a very good financial report provided by Jodi Wentz. PWD Hintz stated that the financial report was originally required as part of the Richland County Grant program, but that it is no longer available but they hope to have the County Commissioners to start it again. Mayor Norby further stated that it is now mostly required because the City issues payment to RC Baseball, and that they need a financial reporting as part of due diligence with taxpayer money. Mr. Bower asked if the keys required to be turned back in in the agreement were, and PWD Hintz stated that the keys for Moose Park were returned. Mr. Sukut stated that the still has keys for Lyndale Park, and PWD Hintz stated that those were not required to be turned back in but that he hopes to have them keyed with matching keys for Moose Park. He further stated that the biggest issue is that the City needs access to the Park, for letting Pepsi in for example, and so additional locks cannot be added by Baseball.

Mr. Sukut stated that there will not be a Legion or Babe Ruth team this year, due to not enough people coming out. He stated that it is their hope to keep Moose Park and continue doing the upkeep, and to use possibly use it for t-ball if there is conflicts with using Water Tower Park with softball. PWD Hintz stated that softball only uses one of the fields. Mr. Bower stated that he thought the only concern that the City had the previous year with the using of Water Tower Park was that it was not included in the agreement, so he asked if the City would be ok as long as it was included. Mr. Biebl stated that the scheduling would also need to be considered. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that Mackenzie Wick, with girls' softball, worked with t-ball on the scheduling,

and Mr. Bower stated she has agreed to do so again this year. Mayor Norby stated that Moose Park will always be the legion field, even if it is not used by them in the near future, but that he does not agree with the City continuing payment if RC Baseball is not doing the upkeep of the field. Mr. Bower stated that they want to continue to do the upkeep to ensure the field is ready in future years and not let go. Mayor Norby stated that he has been approached by some of the nearby Colleges for use of the field, as theirs are unusable with flooding, but that they have agreed to do any upkeep while using it. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that if it is not going to be used, she felt other communities in need should be allowed to use it. Mr. Sukut stated that they have a grounds keeper for Lyndale par, and that he would be asked to maintain Moose Park also, and Mr. Bower stated that they had anticipated continuing the maintenance at Moose Park along with Lyndale, even if they are not using it. Mayor Norby stated he has fears with RC Baseball not coming back, and Mr. Sukut stated that their 11 year old and younger numbers are way up, and that joining Glendive helped. Mr. Bower stated that he felt a year to year look at what is needed would be best. Mayor Norby stated that previously when the Colleges utilized the field, they did so with RC Baseball facilitating them to ensure it worked properly.

Mr. Biebl asked what RC Baseballs expectation of upkeep is for Moose Park for either them or the City, and Mr. Sukut stated watering, mowing, and weed control, and that RC Baseball might be lining the infield. Mr. Sukut asked what the expectations of upkeep of Moose Park would be now that they would be using it, and PWD Hintz stated putting the bases away, dragging the field and picking up after themselves. He stated that there is a garden tractor and drag available for dragging the field, and a concessions available if they wanted to use it. He further stated that the bathrooms are kept open and cleaned by the City and the City mows it once a week. Alderwoman Christensen stated that RC Baseball should go back to their board and decide what they would like to do with Moose Park and then report back to the Committee. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated to let C/T Redfield know when a decision has been made and she will schedule another meeting, where payment options, if needed, will be decided.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm.

Jessica Redfield, City Clerk

Kysa Rasmussen, Committee Chair