

# ***Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission*** Minutes January 27, 2022

The Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission convened on January 27, 2022 in Meeting Room B of the Murray County Government Center in Slayton, MN and via Teams Meeting. The following voting members were present: Leroy Reese (Chair), Justin Hoffmann, Tom Kappes, Jon Hoyme, Rae Storm, David Thiner and Les Speckmier. Member present via Teams: Molly Malone. Others present: Jean Christoffels, ex-officio member.

## **1. Call Meeting to Order:**

Chair Reese called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

## **2. Elections:**

Les Speckmeier was nominated as Chair.

**MSP: Thiner, Hoffmann to have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Les Speckmeier as Chair.**

Jon Hoyme was nominated as Vice Chair.

**MSP: Thiner, Hoffmann to have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Jon Hoyme as Vice Chair.**

Rae Storm was nominated as Secretary.

**MSP: Thiner, Hoffmann to have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Rae Storm as Secretary.**

## **3. Open Forum:**

No one was present.

## **4. Approval/Additions to Agenda**

Justin requested to add the following: "Park's Director Report" after Secretary's Report; "Update on Lime Lake and Lake Sarah Dam Projects" under Old Business; and "Park's Shop Project" under New Business.

**MSP: Thiner, Hoffmann to approve the agenda with the additions.**

## **5. a. Secretary's Report:**

**MSP: Reese, Thiner to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2021 meeting as written.**

### **b. Park's Director Report:**

- All docks have been taken out and repaired; they are ready for installation in the spring.
- Removed three evergreen trees at Swenson Park for future campground expansion.
- Seven-mile drainage project did not get done; Justin talked with County Board about carrying over funds for this project; no plan was ever put together for this project.
- Lakers 4-H Club would like to donate up to \$2,000 for trees in the campground expansion area.

- Seasonal Campers are all coming back except for one site at Seven-mile. There will be lottery drawing on Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> for the site. The Park's Commission discussed the possibility of adding one more seasonal site at Seven-mile for next year.

**MSP: Reese, Kappes to increase the number of seasonal sites at Seven-mile Lake County Park to five (5) sites.**

- Trees were cut down at Marsh's Landing – they were rotten; the area was also seeded.
- Four (4) trees were removed at East Lake Sarah Park and the area will be seeded this spring.
- Six (6) of 4 aeration systems are currently operating; new oxygen meter has been giving problems so are relying on DNR for readings. Justin will get readings to Samantha for inclusion on County website. Only checking lakes without operating aeration systems.
- Trees will be planted this year on the south side of the entrance to Seven-mile Lake Park.

## **6. Old Business**

### **a. Updated 2021 Camping Fees**

Camping fees were increased last year to \$1,300 for seasonal sites and \$20 nightly for all other sites. The improvements being made to the parks are making a difference as we are seeing an increase in campers.

### **b. Approve Swenson Park Campground Expansion Plan**

A map of Swenson Park Campground Expansion was displayed and reviewed during the meeting. The plans include moving the three sites by the lake and the one where the new access road will go through. It is estimated that there will only be one of the frisbee golf holes that will need to be altered due to the expansion project. Justin thought it would be a great idea to put in a basketball court in the area of the three sites that need to be moved by the lake.

**MSP: Hoyme, Storm to recommend to the Murray County Board of Commissioners to move forward with the Swenson County Park Campground Expansion Project.**

### **c. Update on Lime Lake and Lake Sarah Dam Projects**

Justin reviewed the email from Houston Engineering regarding the two dam projects, noting that the best opportunity for grant funds would be through the Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) as that requires only a 10% match rather than a 50% match required by the Outdoor Recreation Grant. The Parks Commission discussed the costs and required grant matches for both dams.

**MSP: Kappes, Hoyme to recommend to the Murray County Board of Commissioners to move forward with submitting grant application(s) for both the Lime Lake Dam, without the bridge, and the Lake Sarah Dam Replacement projects through the Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL).**

## **7. New Business:**

### **a. Review Capital Improvement Plan and Update 5 Year Projects**

- Corabelle Park – No Change
- Forman Acres – No Change
- East Lake Sarah – additional tree rehabilitation is needed
- Sundquist at West Lake Sarah – Remove one of the picnic shelters from the inventory list

- Lime Lake – No Change
- Marsh’s Landing – remove tree rehabilitation from the future plans as it was accomplished in 2021; add Fish Cleaning Building Rehabilitation to the Short Term Projects
- Seven-Mile – Change to five (5) Seasonal Campsites and add Pickle Ball to Short Term Projects
- Swenson County – Add Pickle Ball to Short Term Projects
- Reviewed the 5-Year Plan projects:
  - Estimated cost for full court basketball is \$21k – would be half that cost if only a half-court;
  - Push Corabelle campsites to 2027 because no water there yet
  - Add electrical upgrade to campsites at Avoca from 20 and 30 amp sites to 50 amp sites
  - Move Swenson Park campground expansion from 2024 to 2022
- Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) – will be adding an I-LID at Marsh’s Landing in 2022

**b. Park’s Shop Project**

Justin presented plans for a future Park’s Shop Building on the County Fairgrounds in the same location of the current building. If approved, the existing building would be torn down after the County Fair with cement work to happen in September and building in October.

**8. Schedule Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be March 17, 2022 at 5:30 pm in Meeting Room B of the Murray County Government Center.

**9. Adjourn**

**MSP: Hoyme, Thiner to adjourn at 6:48 pm**

Attest:   
 Secretary –Murray County Parks & Recreation  
 Advisory Commission

  
 Chairman – Murray County Parks & Recreation  
 Advisory Commission