

# ***Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission* Minutes**

## **September 21, 2017**

The Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission convened on September 21, 2017, in Conference Room B of the Murray County Government Center in Slayton. The following voting members were present: Troy Wehking (Chair), Leroy Reese (Vice Chair), Tom Kappes (Secretary), Justin Hoffmann, Dave Thiner, Rae Storm, and Doug Stewart. Ex-officio members in attendance was Jean Christoffels. Also in attendance were Denny Spartz and Tom Feit.

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

Open Forum was delayed till later to wait for a co-presenter.

### **Agenda:**

**MSP: Doug Stewart and Tom Kappes to approve the agenda.**

### **Secretary's Report:**

**MSP: Justin Hoffmann and Leroy Reese to approve the minutes from May 18, 2017 meeting.**

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

- Plaque honoring those who had been a part of Swenson Park's creation has been installed (newspaper article distributed to Commission Members)
- Lime Lake Dam is #6 on the DNR's list for needing repairs. Estimated cost to replace is \$350,000 and DNR may be requesting funds from the State during the 2018 Legislative Session. If approved, it would be a 50% cost share; the County would be responsible for \$175,000; the grant would allow up to 3 ½ to 4 years to complete the project, if awarded.
- Bob Miller started full time in the Parks Department
- Lakers 4-H Club will work with Justin to design and place benches at Swenson Park.
- Someone requested approval to plant a tree at East Lake Sarah Park.
- Tree damage at East Lake Sarah Park – some trees were removed.
- Fishing Tournament this coming weekend; full registration.
- All structures, pumps, lines, electric have been removed for the aeration system on Lake Shetek. Justin is working with a landowner to possibly relocate the Shetek and Bloody new aeration systems.
- Spraying of Parks is being worked on; scheduled to be completed in next couple weeks.
- Locks in all the Parks will be keyed to a master system and will be completed this fall.

### **Open Forum:**

Tom Feit and Denny Spartz requested an update on the playground equipment removed from East Lake Sarah County Park (East Sarah); asked if there were plans to replace. PALS may be interested in providing some funding for the replacement. If PALS were to come forward with funds, the Parks Commission would look at the possibility of budgeting for new equipment; budgeting is done about one year in advance.

Tom and Denny also asked about repairs to the boat landing at East Sarah. Justin fixed once this summer; damage is occurring when boaters power load. Their final question was whether the County would look into using AIS dollars for educating individuals to identify AIS.

**Old Business:**

*Lime Lake Park Project Update*

Bids were awarded and they are waiting for State approval on plumbing plans before commencing the bathroom project; hope to finish this fall.

*Parks Ordinance*

Discussion about prohibiting individuals from fishing within the thin ice signs. If the State does not regulate, the County should put something in the ordinance. Public hearing will be held later this fall/winter with other county ordinances.

**MSP: Tom Kappes, Leroy Reese to add language for prohibiting fishing within thin ice signs, if not regulated by the State.**

**New Business:**

*Playground at East Sarah*

Covered during the Open Forum.

*Wireless Internet at Swenson Park*

There was a request to add wireless internet service at Swenson Park. Before a decision can be made, the Commission asked to have the wireless internet company attend the next meeting to answer questions (an invitation will be extended for the November meeting).

*Murray County Parks Rules and Information*

Language added to the rules were taken from the Ordinance. 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet under camping has the fee listed twice for Swenson; should be \$17 per night. Add a bullet to ensure that all sewage dumping (including gray water) is prohibited except at designated dump stations.

**MSP: Leroy Reese, Rae Storm to adopt the Murray County Parks Rules and Information with the correction of the fees and the addition of a bullet regarding sewage dumping.**

A copy of the 2017 Camping Fees was distributed showing income may be slightly higher than last year and fall hunting campers are still expected to utilize the campgrounds.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be November 16, 2017, at 5:30pm, in Conference Room B of the Murray County Government Center.

**MSP: Doug Stewart, Justin Hoffmann to adjourn the meeting.**

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary –Murray County Parks &  
Recreation Advisory Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
President – Murray County Parks &  
Recreation Advisory Commission