

Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission Minutes December 21, 2017

The Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission convened on December 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, James Jens, Doug Stewart, Rae Storm, and Dave Thiner. Ex-officio members in attendance were Jean Christoffels and Amy Rucker.

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

Open Forum:

There was no one present for Open Forum.

Agenda:

MSP: Hoffmann, Jens to approve the agenda with the addition of “Capital Improvement Plan”.

Secretary’s Report:

MSP: Stewart, Reese to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2017 meeting.

Park Director’s Report:

- Park survey results were distributed and reviewed. A comment regarding spraying for mosquitos at the parks was discussed, but no action was taken.
- The Lime Lake Park bathroom project was completed yesterday except for minor details such as toilet paper and soap dispensers, etc. that need to be installed. There were some ash trees in the middle of the parking lot that were removed. The Highway Department then did some grading in the parking lot and added some gravel.
- Trees were trimmed at Sundquist Park on the south side of the parking lot and a walking trail was mowed. A few rocks will need to be removed yet. The path will continue to be mown and maybe a bench can be added or a picnic table moved to the trail.
- Also at Sundquist, some trees were removed from a wetland area and the ground was seeded. Another wetland area was roped off to keep people from parking there.
- Started working on fixing the fishing pier from Sundquist this week.
- “Pets must be on leash” signs were ordered. They’ll be installed next spring.
- At Corabelle Park, a row of honeysuckle by the lake was getting old and so was torn out and the ground was seeded. A tire swing was removed, too, at the recommendation of MCIT.
- Hoffmann was asked to bring ideas to the next meeting for recognizing the Larson family’s contribution to the Lime Lake Park improvements.

Old Business:

Wireless Internet at County Parks

Julie Foote from MVTV Wireless sent Justin photos from Olson Park that were requested at the last meeting. She added that Seven Mile Park has line of sight for internet access if a post is erected at campsite #8. Sundquist Park does not have line of sight at this time but may when MVTV adds another access point on a grain leg off US Highway 59.

Thiner recommended asking Les Speckmeier if he thinks anyone will use internet at Seven Mile Lake Park if it’s installed.

New Business:

Outdoor Recreation Grant

Various project possibilities were discussed.

It was moved by Reese, seconded by Kappes and passed to recommend to the County Board that the County apply for an Outdoor Recreation Grant to improve the restrooms and update the playground at Sundquist Park.

It was also decided that the picnic shelter should be taken down and not replaced at this time.

Capital Improvement Plan

Christoffels distributed the capital improvement plan, updated with changes suggested at the November 16 meeting.

It was moved by Stewart, seconded by Storm and passed to recommend the updated capital improvement plan be forwarded to the Murray County Board of Commissioners for addition to the County's capital improvement plan.

Christoffels added that she researched the mounds at Marsh's Landing and learned they are protected by the Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act and may not be disturbed. They have not been "shovel-tested", which would require hiring an archeologist.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 5:30pm, in Conference Room B of the Murray County Government Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Attest: _____
Secretary –Murray County Parks & Recreation
Advisory Commission

President – Murray County Parks & Recreation
Advisory Commission