

Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission Minutes

August 23, 2018

The Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission convened on August 23, 2018 outside the Murray County Government Center in Slayton. The following voting members were present: Leroy Reese (Chair), Rae Storm (Vice Chair), Doug Stewart (Secretary), Justin Hoffmann, Tom Kappes, Les Speckmeier, and David Thiner. Ex-officio members in attendance were Jean Christoffels and Amy Rucker.

All boarded a Murray County Transportation bus which left for Swenson Park at 5:30 p.m.

Reese called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Agenda:

MSP: Hoffmann and Kappes to approve the agenda.

Secretary's Report:

MSP: Stewart and Storm to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2018 meeting with a correction that the next meeting would be on August 23, not April 23.

Park Director's Report:

- Hoffmann reviewed his 2019 budget with the County Board in July.
- The County Commissioners said that Hoffmann should go ahead with getting a rock engraved to acknowledge the Larsons' donation to Lime Lake Park

MSP: Kappes and Storm to use the following verbiage: 2019 Park Improvements Made Possible with a Donation from Maynard and Viola Larson. If a shorter version is needed, use "2018 Park Improvements Maynard and Viola Larson".

- A representative from the playground company stopped out a few weeks ago and looked at the Parks where we're wanting new equipment.
- The July flooding affected Forman Acres. The dock was pulled out before it could be damaged. The grass is growing back and there are no shoreline issues.
- Flooding at Lime Lake Park was worse in June than July. The walkway to the bridge is undermined approximately 9". Concrete cracks are getting bigger. Damage estimates were reported to the State.
- The Parks Department helped fill sandbags for 3 days in July.
- Hoffmann is working on an easement agreement with Mike Nelson for the aeration systems on Lake Shetek and Bloody Lake. He would like to install it after Labor Day.
- Steve Sundquist contacted Hoffmann regarding the fact that he wants to sell the rest of his Lake Sarah property. His preference is to sell it to the County for expansion of the Sundquist Park. The property is adjacent to the park and is 34.5 acres with approximately 1,400' of lakeshore. It includes wetlands and 6 – 7 acres of CRP. Initial asking price is \$500,000.
- The Marsh's Landing sign was erected. It was made by a few seasonal Parks employees using the plasma cutter at Murray County Central.

Old Business:

Parks Brochures

Christoffels reported that while \$3,500 was approved for the Parks brochures, the invoice was \$12,000. A revised estimate had been given to Christy Riley, but Christoffels didn't receive it. Riley offered to pay the difference from her budget but there's plenty of AIS money to cover it. Christoffels will ask the County Board next week for approval to pay the \$12,000.

Grant for Improvements at Sundquist Park

Hoffmann wanted to be bidding out the project by now, but the State Historic Preservation Office determined that an archaeological study needs to be done before the project can proceed. Hoffmann called many archeologists before finally finding one at Augustana. The study will probably start next week.

New Business:

Camping Fees

Raising camping fees for 2019 was discussed. It was decided to wait until the October meeting to make a decision.

Members toured Swenson Park.

Members looked at Steve Sundquist's land south of Sundquist Park.

Members toured Sundquist Park.

Members toured East Lake Sarah Park.

Members returned to Slayton on the Murray County Transportation bus.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be October 18 at 5:30 p.m. at the Murray County Government Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

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

President – Murray County Parks & Recreation
Advisory Commission