

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, April 11, 2023

1. Call to order by Beth Arneberg at 6:00 p.m.  
Roll Call: Members Present: Audrey Stowell, Beth Arneberg, Justin Agnew, Reggie Geissler, John Abbe and Travis Siebert.  
Absent: Heather Martell  
Staff present: John Jimenez and Jack Hays
2. Approval of Minutes: March 14, 2023. **Motion by Siebert/Geissler to approve minutes of March 14, 2023. Motion passed.**
3. Personal Appearances by Citizens. None.
4. Discuss/Consider Special Event Applications. First application is for Kickin' It In the Park for NF - repeat application for May 20, 2023. No issues. Second application is for Reach for a fundraiser for its members at Riverfront on June 3, 2023, from 1 pm to 7 pm. They intend to have a private event with food trucks and blow-ups. They will be charging an entrance fee. John has told them that we have no fencing or any way of separating private event from public park. **Motion by Arneberg/Siebert to approve Kickin' It In the Park for NF application as presented. Motion passed. Motion by Arneberg/Siebert to approve the Reach event contingent upon John reiterating to them that while their attractions are ticketed, the park is otherwise open to the public. Motion passed.**
5. Discuss/Consider
  - a. Update on Flag Hill. John reports that the floors look great. There are still issues, only now with the reinstalled stall doors and bottom trim.
  - b. Ordinance 9.34 Closing Hours for City Park. Discussion with Ryan Douglas of CFPD regarding closing hours of the park. **Motion by Abbe/Siebert to recommend changing Ordinance 9.34 to: All City parks shall be closed to vehicular traffic from dark until 7 a.m. year-round, except when a permit is obtained, and to all pedestrian traffic from 10:00 p.m. until daylight year-round, except when a permit is obtained. Motion passed.**
  - c. Irvine Park gates. Currently, staff closes several gates at night, which creates split and later shifts. John would like to discuss the possibility of leaving gates open or closing only some gates earlier to make it easier for staff and make shifts more desirable. Discussed various possibilities including timed gates. John has received a quote for gates around the zoo: Small mammal building - \$3,200.00 per gate, Large mammal exhibit - \$6,000 per gate. These would be electronic, have fobs, and lock at a specific time with the ability for gate to be opened from inside should anyone need to get out after locking time. Will discuss again in May.
  - d. Riverfront mechanical room. The parts came in for the large fountain at Riverfront Park. Insurance is paying for a good part of it. It should be up and running this summer. The problem arose when the pump failed and the

underground mechanical room flooded. Discussed the idea of moving the mechanical rooms above ground. This would involve a brick building alongside the plaza walkway at a cost of approximately \$25,000. Discussed alternatives including a back-up pump and/or alarm notification when pump fails.

- e. Recreation Report. Jack reports on youth basketball skills camp, youth dodgeball / topple the towers, and spring soccer. Adult volleyball and basketball leagues have concluded. Trying to now follow US Soccer guidelines, which means adding more fields, smaller teams, and changing field dimensions. Our league merges with Lafayette for U10-12 and above. He's also working with Chippewa Bowhunters for an archery program again this summer.
  - f. Director Report. John has met with Committee, and they were able to reallocate funds to create a recreational assistant position, an additional pool manager as well as giving raises to some other positions. These still need to be approved by the Council. Quote for tennis/pickle ball surface in the works. He is hiring seasonals, some returning and some new. Still need approximately 11 more lifeguards. April 17 at 5:00 is open forum for the pool. Over 600 people have taken the survey, and it is still open.
- 6. Approve Claims. **Motion by Siebert/Geissler to approve claims in the amount of \$40,721.30. Motion passed.**
  - 7. Park Board Members' Concerns or Comments. Question regarding cost of ball field usage at Hallie Park.
  - 8. Adjournment. **Motion by Siebert/Agnew to adjourn at 7:41 p.m. Motion passed.**

Submitted by:  
Audrey Stowell, Secretary