

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION & RECREATION
JOINT POWERS BOARD
OCTOBER 23, 2015**

Members Present: Eric Banks, Dave Baumgart, Bill Borth, Matt Dawson, Tim Johnson, Audrey Nelsen, Pablo Obregon, Rachel Skretvedt, Liz VanDerBill

Staff Present: Steve Brisendine, Rob Baumgarn, Tammy Rudningen, Becky Sorenson, Jena Tollefson, Pam Vruwink, Jodi Wambeke

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eric Banks.

The first item on the agenda was the Park Committee's meeting update. Eric Banks talked about the Park Committee meeting, stating the following parks are included in the new equipment proposal: Cardinal, Collegeview, Gesch, Minnegasco, Ramblewood and Hedin. Banks stated that the prices were not as good as we had expected because the cost of freight and installation was not added originally. Steve Brisendine said that the decision was made to have Game Time do the installation to get units ready for use as soon as possible.

Brisendine stated that the parks chosen are not in the master plan except Ramblewood, but, since the master plan for Ramblewood included play equipment, it was decided to purchase the equipment for this park. Sperry Park was originally on the list for new equipment with purchase but due to its location and proximity to high traffic, it was felt that a better location for equipment would be Hedin Park. The committee had originally planned for equipment to be placed at Sunrise Park but due to the new school location that park location was changed to Collegeview.

The total amount of the grant from Game Time is \$87,240.

Brisendine stated that the proposal will be presented to the City Council on November 2 for approval to move forward with the purchase. 2015 CIP funds will be used to purchase this equipment.

Rachel Skretvedt asked what would happen if the City Council did not approve use of left over money to cover freight and installation. Brisendine responded that we would need to re-convene if that should happen but he feels that the Council will approve.

Matt Dawson asked what the installation fee would be. Brisendine stated the amount is \$43,689.75. Liz VanDerBill asked if the warranty would be in place if Public Works did the install. Brisendine responded that there would be warranty in place but it might be reduced.

Audrey Nelsen asked if Public Works had been asked if they would install. Brisendine stated that, due to the number of staff, they are concerned with completing the install in a timely fashion.

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Staff Openings: The opening for ABE manager is still open although there is a discussion taking place with a potential candidate at this time. We are trying to hire a part-time ECFE instructor. Rob Baumgarn has moved to the Civic Center Arena as manager so his position is posted. Brisendine said he hopes to start interviewing for this position the last week in October. There were 15 applicants with 9 completing their paperwork. Liz VanDerBill asked who was on the interview process. Brisendine stated that some staff would be involved. If any Board Members would like to be on the interview committee, they should let Brisendine know.

Brisendine said we also need two Board members, City appointees. If anyone has suggestions, please let him know and he will follow up with the Mayor on getting candidates appointed.

Staff Reports: Rob gave his report of the Arena, stating that ice is ready in the Blue Line Center. He talked about skate sharpening, stating that John Wodash sharpens our skates for free and we get a percentage of fees he received from other skaters in lieu of rent. We need to get skate sharpening times replaced. Audrey Nelsen asked if there was some proposal to purchase skates last year. Brisendine stated that Troy had been working on something but it did not come to completion before he left. Baumgarn will look further into this situation and bring info back at a future meeting.

Jodi Wambeke talked about ECFE fall data. ECFE numbers are lower that we would like. She said the Katie Smith event was well attended.

Tammy Rudningen and Jena Tollefson are working on the Pumpkin Patch Carnival which is happening this Sunday. Tammy is also starting work on the winter brochure. She has added classes at the Community Center and passed out flyers on those classes.

Rachel Skretvedt asked if we had thought about advertising other programs (ie traveling soccer, basketball boosters, etc) she said that people new to the area sometimes have a difficulty getting connected to the different activities available and who the contact person is.

Pam Vruwinck said that she and Casey Hagert had attended the MRPA conference and were glad to come back with new ideas for programs.

Brisendine gave an update on the Yellow Bike program. We are in the process of collecting the bikes to repair and store over the winter. He believes the program was a success but not as big a success as he had hoped.

Brisendine stated the Rotary Club is having meetings to talk about Robbins Island activities for next summer (such as concerts, etc).

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Selvig Park is in the middle of getting a face lift. Tom Amberg and Faith at Work have been doing a good job on updating the park.

Jena Tollefson talked about Cardinal Place, saying that 280 kids are attending. She had just received 5 more over fall break. There have been 90 kids some days with the average daily attendance around 65-70. She is working on more programs for their creative and active time. The next full days will be winter break.

Liz VanDerBill talked about meeting with the architect regarding the new school building. An offer has been made for land for the new school. The new school will create more gym space and possibly more field space. A discussion followed about the new school.

Steve Brisendine asked about the School Board opening. Liz VanDerBill stated the Board has to notify the City Auditor of the opening. In the past, if there was 2 years or less, the Board could appoint. Now if someone who resigns with 1 year or more left, an election needs to be held.

The next meeting will be Committee Meetings and will be December 4. Liz VanDerBill requested an Executive Board meeting be called.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.