

**Meeting Minutes  
New Prague Park Board  
Tuesday, March 9, 2021  
6:00 PM**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Chair Amanda Judd. Members present were Joe Barten, and Steve Roesner. Absent were Vice Chair Anthony Anderson and Maggie Bass. Staff present was Ken Ondich – Planning / Community Development Director.

**2. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Barten, seconded by Roesner, to approve the February 10, 2021 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried (3-0).

**3. Review Financial Reports**

Planning Director Ondich presented the financial reports to the Park Board noting that during the month of February there was \$403.64 added to the Park Equipment Fund from 1 new home permit being issued and that a total of 5 new home permits had been issued so far in 2021.

A motion was made by Barten, seconded by Roesner to accept the financial reports as presented. Motion carried (3-0).

**4. Miscellaneous**

- a. **2022-2026 Project Plan** – Planning Director Ondich stated that included in the packet was the 2022 to 2026 Project Plan as updated following the last Park Board Meeting. He stated that he had received two calls in the past month from residents regarding getting a dog park constructed and that at different times over the years this has been brought up by residents, but the Park Board’s response has been to say that it could be considered if a local group can fundraise for one to pay for fencing and other amenities and also have volunteers to monitor the dog park. He stated that the location discussed in the past for a dog park was at Sliding Hill Skate Park along Columbus Ave. N.

Chair Judd asked if the idea could be promoted on the City’s social media pages.

Joe Barten asked if a dog park area would be turf or mulch and also asked if staff had looked at other locations.

Planning Director Ondich stated that the idea would be to just mow the vegetation that exists and maybe overseed as needed and that mulch would be likely in the

entrance gate area to cut down on mud. He also stated that dog parks typically have multiple areas fenced off to rotate between so that turf conditions don't deteriorate.

Joe Barten said that he would also like to consider a light at a dog park. He stated that he could support a fifty/fifty cost share if a group could organize a fundraising effort. He also asked about conducting a survey to see what residents might like to see if a group can get organized to fundraise.

Planning Director Ondich stated that surveys have been completed in the past by putting a hard copy in with the utility bills and allowing people to fill them out via paper, but mostly encouraging the use of an online site to submit survey responses.

The consensus of the Park Board was to contact the individuals that had inquired about a dog park and suggest they further organize before revisiting the topic with the Park Board.

- b. Fitness and Aquatic Center Update** – Planning Director Ondich stated that he included in the packet the monthly update for the Fitness and Aquatic Center. He stated that the financials show that the year-to-date losses continue to exceed the budget and that the Joint Powers Board will meet at the end of March for another update on the financials. The consensus of the Park Board was that they would like to see the FAC continue to offer membership holds until there is more certainty in when the facility could once again fully open without restrictions and to keep as many people up to date on the future activities at the FAC to get memberships moved from holds to active and also to attract new members as well.
- c. Ice Rinks and Warming House** – Planning Director Ondich stated that warm weather forced the warming house and ice rinks to close on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and that even when the rink was open in February, it was initially very cold which kept the numbers down. He stated that staff utilizes the ice resurfacing machine even in very cold temperatures to keep the ice in good shape.
- d. Park Signs** – Joe Barten asked if there was a plan to update all the park signs to the more current standard and noted that Southside Park and Memorial Park are not of the current design. He also noted that the Greenway Link signs should be considered for upgrading and also that the kiosk maps should be updated as well.

Planning Director Ondich stated that signs were budgeted for a few years and the remaining signs were still holding up well and with budget cuts a few years ago they had not been added back to the project plan. He stated that the greenway link signs had not been discussed before but noted that some of them are getting on in years and could be added to a replacement plan. Finally, he noted that he would look into replacing the maps and information at the kiosks and that it could be a project for an intern or boy scouts/girl scouts' group. He also stated that he would look up the cost to budget for sign replacements.

## 5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM by order of Chair Judd.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Ondich". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "K" and "O".

Ken Ondich  
Planning / Community Development Director