

**Meeting Minutes  
New Prague Park Board  
Tuesday, July 21, 2021  
6:00 PM**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

The regular meeting was called to order at City Hall at 5:59 PM by Chair Anthony Anderson. Members present were Joe Barten, Brian Molitor, Maggie Bass, Al Hansen and Youth Representative Hailey Calliguri. Staff present was Ken Ondich – Planning / Community Development Director.

**2. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Barten, seconded by Bass, to approve the June 8, 2021 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

**3. Review Financial Reports**

Planning Director Ondich presented the financial reports to the Park Board noting that during the month of June there was \$405.20 added to the Park Equipment Fund from 1 new home permit being issued and that a total of 16 new home permits had been issued so far in 2021 along with two additional apartment units.

A motion was made by Barten, seconded by Hansen to accept the financial reports as presented. Motion carried (4-0).

**4. 2022 Park Board Budget Discussion**

Planning Director Ondich stated based on the discussions from the beginning of the year, he was presenting the proposed list of 2022 Park Board Projects for consideration. He noted that the two trail or sidewalk expansion projects were recommended by staff to be added to a future capital improvement project related to street reconstruction in the area.

The Park Board asked if considerations could be made for better pedestrian crossings, specifically at former County Road 37 along the potential Lexington Ave. N. route.

Planning Director Ondich stated that at the previous night's City Council meeting this topic of safe pedestrian crossings also came up related to Praha Village and the new HyVee on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE and he said that further study of that intersection and crossing would likely help pave the way for how future pedestrian crossing are treated. He also noted that with the Main Street reconstruction project that a motion activated flashing beacon system was being added at Pershing and Main Street for pedestrian traffic to Memorial Park.

A motion was made by Chair Anderson, seconded by Molitor, to recommend that the City Council include the following projects in the 2022 Park Board Budget: \$30,000 – Northside Park Basketball Court First Half Earmark for Renovation, \$5,000 for portable

bathroom surround for Memorial Park on the East Side and finally \$6,750 to replace 10 wooden picnic tables with aluminum. Motion carried (5-0).

## **5. Park Board Clean Up Event**

Planning Director Ondich stated that at the Park Board Meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup> the Park Board suggested a one time clean up event occur before the end of the year by the Park Board. He stated that staff would recommend one of the greenway trail segments as those are not typically adopted by groups, specifically the one starting at Greenway Park and leading to the northeast towards 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW.

Joe Barten stated his vision was maybe having a clean up event every year around Earth Day and that the Park Board could possibly even adopt a park area for more regular clean up events.

Chair Anderson agreed that a clean up event around Earth Day would be a good idea.

For the time being, the Park Board determined that a one-time clean up event starting at the brana in Greenway Park would be held by the Park Board Members and their invited guests on Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 9am. Planning Director Ondich noted that the City provides the bags and gloves for all clean up events.

## **6. Review of Parks Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan**

Planning Director Ondich stated that at the Park Board Meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup> the Park Board asked for a presentation of the latest revision of the City's Park Plan. Planning Director Ondich provided an overview of the 2013 Park Plan and noted that he is requesting budget funds to update the Comprehensive Plan in 2022.

## **7. Miscellaneous**

- a. 2021 Project Updates** – Planning Director Ondich stated that that the City Council awarded the Southside Park Drainage Project to Chard Grading and Excavating at their July 19, 2021 Meeting and that the work would be completed by fall. He also noted that the project was slightly over budget by nearly \$6,000 but staff and the Council wanted to move forward with the project as costs would not get better by waiting another year.
- b. Movie in the Park Follow-up** – Planning Director Ondich stated that since last month's meeting, staff spoke further with Brooke Sticha at the Chamber of Commerce who indicted she thought the movie in the park would be a great addition to Czech Out New Prague but also that the Chamber Board felt a start time of 8:30 PM might get late for a movie for the little ones and also some concerns about setting up the event in a short time frame so it might be best to shoot for a 2022 event. He also noted that staff contacted other area cities that hold movie in the park events, and it looks as though renting equipment for the event plus paying or the rights to publicly show a movie would cost somewhere between \$850 to \$1,400 for the expenses of the event and would need to utilize volunteers in addition to this.

Finally, he noted that he recently spoke with representatives from the Park Ballroom who expresses interest in hosting movie in the park events. The Park Board suggested keeping the idea going and to work with a group that might want to lead the charge.

- c. **Fitness and Aquatic Center Update** – Planning Director Ondich stated that there was not an update available for this month’s meeting.
- d. **Dog Park Survey Questions - Update** – Planning Director Ondich stated that that since the online survey was published on 6/10/21 that there were 335 responses received and that it had not yet been published in the August City Newsletter. He stated that Planning Intern Meagan Voss summarized the survey results thus far as being a majority in support of a dog park as a general observation. He stated that the information as provided only as a quick update at this point and that he would expect more input with the survey being publicized to the general public in the August City Newsletter.
- e. **August Park Board Meeting Reminder** – Planning Director Ondich stated that as a reminder, the August Park Board meeting has been moved to August 17<sup>th</sup>.
- f. **Anthony Anderson’s Final Park Board Meeting** – Planning Director Ondich noted that tonight would be Anthony Anderson’s last meeting as a member of the Park Board as he would be starting a new position with New Prague Public Works the next day. The Park Board wished Mr. Anderson well with his new position with the City.
- g. **ADA Accessible Playground Equipment** – Alan Hansen stated that he was a member of the Lion’s Club who expressed interest in helping to develop an ADA assessable playground area.

## 8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 PM by order of Chair Anderson.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ken Ondich  
Planning / Community Development Director