

City of Babbitt
Parks and Recreation Board
May 11, 2011
(not approved until next meeting)

The Regular Meeting of the Babbitt Parks and Recreation Board was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chairman Duane Lossing.

Present for roll call were: Mike Jaeger, Devin Lind-Chamberlin, Mary Muellerleile, Jim Mackai, Joe Scherer, Ron Marinaro and Chairman Duane Lossing.

Absent was Jim Zupancich

Also present were John Fitzpatrick, Connie Koivisto, Chandra Koivisto

It was moved by Jaeger, supported by Mackai, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 27, 2011. Motion carried.

Old Business

Coordinator Scherer is investigating the needs and structure of the Frontier telephone and internet lines for the Teen Center/Recreation Department. Coordinator Scherer will discuss with Cathy Klegstad the possibility of tying the lines in with the City configuration instead of an independent line as a possible cost saving measure.

Discussion took place on the March Income Report, donations from the East Range Hockey, Men's Hockey Tournament and Chix with Stix appeared to not be listed. Coordinator Scherer will discuss with Cathy Klegstad.

Lind-Chamberlin stated there has been resolution to the request for cabinets at the Municipal Building to house the memorabilia for Miss Babbitt and Little Miss Babbitt.

The fishing pier is in the water, repair parts for it were ordered on April 28 and Coordinator Scherer is looking into the possibility of a 15 year warranty covering the loose aluminum on the deck.

Wendy Schlueter is working on the signage for reduced wake near the fishing pier.

The Parks and Recreation Hiring Committee consisting of Coordinator Scherer, Lind-Chamberlin and Marinaro; they will meet on Monday at 9:00 a.m. regarding the Vermilion Community College work study position, summer help, Teen Center workers and the lifeguard/beach attendant positions. One application has been received for the lifeguard position and several received for Teen Center workers.

The swimming docks will be placed in the water when school is out. Signs stating "Swim at Your Own Risk" will be placed around the beach area. A new sign is needed for the boat launch area as the one presently there is faded.

Discussion followed on previous removal of lifeguard tower and boat from the beach. Coordinator Scherer will follow up with Cathy Klegstad on insurance risk and affects on premium.

Lind-Chamberlin will be contacting local skate park enthusiasts for ideas and needs of the skate park.

Coordinator Scherer had discussions with the school principal and shop instructor regarding student shop projects consisting of building quality skate park pieces. Coordinator Scherer will continue the discussions.

Teen Center rules were discussed. Coordinator Scherer will work with the present rules and make recommendations and updates as situations arise. The need for realistic rules was discussed. Discussion took place on public building smoking regulations.

Discussion took place on revisiting family night at the Teen Center.

Discussion took place on open gym time prior to the opening of the Teen Center. Coordinator Scherer will investigate further and look over the inventory of gym games and equipment for possible needs and repairs. Coordinator Scherer will prepare a needs list.

Member Zupancich arrived at 5:56 p.m.

Coordinator Scherer will remove all video games in the Teen Center that are not age appropriate. Discussion took place on trading the games at Game Stop in Duluth. Motion made by Lind-Chamberlin, second by Lossing to allow Coordinator Scherer to trade the inappropriate games at Game Stop in Duluth at a time when he is in Duluth; a special trip should not be made. Motion carried.

Discussion followed on radios for the Recreation Department. There is a possibility the Fire Department has extra radios; Coordinator Scherer will check with Ryan Scharber on the status of them. A motion by Marinaro, second by Lind-Chamberlin, to purchase two radios if none available from Fire Department. Motion Carried.

The drag and rake is working very well on the softball field. The field is in excellent shape this year.

Rob Wills is in the process of completing and donating the softball scoreboard. Discussion followed on business advertising.

The microphone for the arena is still missing. Coordinator Scherer will look in the arena coaches' room to see if it is there. Discussion followed on sound systems for the Walleye Whamma if the microphone could not be found and the possibility of updating the arena sound system.

Ad went out in the local newspaper requesting interested groups and clubs to run the beach concession stand.

Old arena lights will be sold on bid.

New Business

Discussion took place on the Little League field. The field is in tough shape. Coordinator Scherer consulted Gary Rantala from GR Greenhouse on grass seeding options. Coordinator Scherer is looking for someone to haul soil for the field. Discussion followed on splitting a load with Embarrass and a prior year's possible overlooking of reimbursement to them, Coordinator Scherer will research with Cathy Klegstad on payment status.

The Little League concession roof will be repaired, the materials have been purchased. Chandra Koivisto requested the field repairs be completed by June 6th when play begins and suggested a possible donation from the Little League.

Coordinator Scherer discussed with the school principal and shop instructor the possibility of the shop class building block and mortar dug outs at both the Little League and softball fields in the fall. The principal was receptive to the request as the school would like to give back to the community. Coordinator Scherer researching with Cathy Klegstad for possible past unspent earmarked money for the dugouts.

Peter Mitchell softball tournaments will be played at the Little League field.

The Recreation Coordinator helping with the ambulance runs has been referred to the City Council.

Motion made by Lossing, support by Lind-Chamberlin, to send a recommendation to the City Council to allow Coordinator Scherer to adjust his 32 hour a week schedule with comp time/flextime depending on the workload. Motion carried.

The dog park at the beach has been removed. Discussion followed on City Ordinances regarding animals at the beach.

Discussion followed on a dance program. Lind-Chamberlin investigating options and costs.

Zupancich requested the ditch along Highway 21 where the Peter Mitchell signs are placed be mowed prior to Peter Mitchell weekend.

It was moved by Lind-Chamberlin, second by Mackai, to approve and authorize bills as presented. Motion carried.

It was moved by Lossing, second by Jaeger, to adjourn at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Muellerleile
Parks and Recreation Board Secretary