PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES—October 10, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Those present:
- Andy Cison, Chairperson
- Sharon Ornquist, Secretary
- Micah Bender

Also present:
- Bruce Zenner—Council Liaison
- Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos

Those excused:
- Charlene Whitbred-Hemmingson
- Chelsie Bowker
- Cindy Domeier

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Ornquist, second by Cison to approve the September 12, 2019 minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Community Garden Clean Up Date
   - November 2, 2019 at 10 a.m.

   Commission requested that the water service be disconnected, and the hoses be blown out to prepare for winter storage.

B. 5K Funraiser Funds
   Council Liaison Zenner informed the Commission that the proceeds from the race need to be officially approved by the Lions Club.

C. Purchase of Mommy & Me swing at Whitbred Park
   The Commission would like to purchase a Mommy & Me swing at Whitbred Park using the proceeds from the 5K Funraiser. Chairman Cison asked Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos if the existing swing structure would support this type of swing. Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos was unsure. He noted that the concrete pads are exposed and the department is trying to figure out how to fix the problem.

D. Whitbred Park Planning Session with Public Works Supervisor
   Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos informed the Commission that the Public Works Department would like to coordinate the redevelopment of Whitbred Park in conjunction with the Anderson Addition Street Reconstruction Project slated for 2026. The Anderson Addition is in need of stormwater mitigation which may
influence the redevelopment of Whitbred Park. The benefits of coordinating the
two projects would allow residents to provide input to the vision for Whitbred
Park and potential savings on improvements. Also, the City could investigate the
possibility of inquiring land from the school in the Spring.

Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos informed Chairman Cison that the
batting cages would not need to be ADA compliant since it was preexisting. The
Commission wondered what it would take to make it ADA compliant at time
reinstallation. Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos responded that there are
two options: The preferred method is to install a net type batting cage. The other
option is to enlarge one of the cages to allow for wheelchair access. Either option
would require a concrete pad to be poured from the building to the batting cages.

Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos asked the Commission what the targeted
age group would be for Whitbred Park. The Commission would like Whitbred
Park to be designed with teenagers in mind by creating a sports themed park.
Some of the amenities could include a BMX bike path, Skateboard Park, Soccer
Field, Baseball field, Hockey Rink and concession stand. Public Works
Supervisor Dionisopoulos was concerned that the amenities the Commission
suggested may be cyclical.

E. Accept Chelsie Bowker’s resignation effective October 1, 2019

Motion by Ornquist, second by Bender to accept, with regret, Chelsie
Bowker’s resignation effective October 1, 2019. Motion carried 3-0.

PARKS UPDATE:
Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos gave the following parks update:

A. Whitbred Park—the light pole at the ice rink was damaged in the storm on
September 25th. The cost to install a new pole with LED lights is $4,800 which
will be covered by insurance.

B. Warming House—the Warming House Attendant will be returning this year. The
pleasure rink may not be open this year due to the construction of the water
treatment plant, but the Hockey Rink will be available.

C. Lions Levee Park—the dock has sunk and is in need of new floats. The boat
launch is under water again due to high water levels. Will reach out to the
original organization regarding the tree invasion on hillside. Possibly a Parks &
Recreation Commission project this Spring.

PARKS COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION:
The Commission expressed the following concerns:

A. Abdella Park—part of the tubing to the play structure at Abdella Park has
been damaged and is need of replacement. Public Works is aware of the
vandalism.
B. Dingle Park--Commission would like to consider the purchase of toddler soccer nets for Dingle Park.

C. Axelrod Park—The Commission would like to attempt to create a pleasure rink at Axelrod Park this year, weather permitting.

D. Hockey Rink—The Commission would like to see the ice rinks plowed flooded on a regular basis.

OPEN DISCUSSION:
A. Seasonal Boat Launch Permit—The Commission is not opposed to a seasonal or life-time permit to use the boat launch. The fees would help offset the cost of maintenance.

B. Accept Micah Bender’s resignation effective immediately.

Motion by Ornquist, second by Cison to accept, with regret, Micah Bender’s resignation effective immediately. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next meeting—November 14 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted October 15, 2019 by Commission Secretary Ornquist

Important Dates:
- November 2 (10 AM)—Community Garden clean up
- December 28—Glow in the Dark Sledding Event

Agenda Items:
- November—Holiday Lights Contest Bus Tour idea
- November—Set dates for Bunco Nights
- November—Glow in the Dark Sledding Event—December 28
- December—Election of Officers