CITY OF ST. PAUL PARK
ST. PAUL PARK, MINNESOTA

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES—February 13, 2020

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

Those present:
- Andy Cison, Chairperson
- Sharon Orquist, Secretary
- Charlene Whitbred Hemmingson

Also present:
- Bruce Zenner—Council Liaison
- Jeff Dionisopoulos, Public Works Supervisor
- Rachel Ortemier—Potential Commission Member

Cindy Domeier was excused.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Orquist, second by Cison to approve the January 9, 2020 minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

PARK UPDATE: (presented by Jeff Dionisopoulos)

A. Whitbred Park has been rekeyed. Chairman Cison will need to arrange for key exchange.

B. Veteran’s Memorial Park

The American Legion will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2021. The City has a proposal with WSB to provide conceptual plans for the Park. Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos asked the Commission as to how much involvement they wishes to be and its vision.

The Commission would like to be involved in the project and suggested a joint meeting with the Legion’s Park Committee and Consultant to collaborate on a vision for the park. Commission Member Orquist provided a concept plan for this park which included granite benches and pavilion. (attached).

C. Open House—Water Treatment Facility

An Open House is tentatively planned for June. Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos would like to have park concept plans available at the Open House for public comment.

D. Whitbred Park

The improvement to Whitbred Park has been tied to the street reconstruction project for Anderson Addition.
E. Summer Projects
   - Abdella Park—black edging around play equipment will be replaced with concrete
   - Lions Levee—floats for dock will be replaced.

AGENDA ITEMS:
A. Adopt a Park Kickoff Event

The following individuals/organization have committed to the following parks for 2020.

   - Abdella Park
   - Axelrod Park
   - Dingle Park
   - Heritage Park—Johannsen Family
   - Lions Levee Park
   - Riverside Park—St. Paul Park Troop 83
   - Sittlow Park
   - Veteran’s Memorial Park—No Knots Professional Massage and Bodywork
   - Whitbred Memorial Park—Whitbred Family

The Johannsen family was in attendance and reported no issues with the program.

The Commission would like to host an Adopt-A-Park event the week of Earth Day to celebrate individuals/organization with a picnic lunch prior to them going to their assigned park for cleanup.

Event to be held: Saturday, April 18 beginning at 11:00 a.m. at Heritage Park.

Need:

   - Send to send renewal letters to those who adopted a park in 2019.
   - Post on webpage Parks available for adoption in 2020.
   - Send out invites to those who adopted a park for 2020.
   - Garbage bags, picker uppers, plastic gloves from Public Works.
   - Reserve Heritage Park.

B. Finalize Bunco Night—Set for February 21st at 7 p.m. at Heritage Park. Char and Cindy will not be in attendance. Post event on Facebook.

C. Winterfest has been cancelled for this year.

D. Glow-in-the-Dark will not be rescheduled this year.
E. Discuss 5K Fun Run—The Commission discussed holding the event 1) on Saturday during Heritage Days 2) in conjunction with the Athletic Association Family Fun Day, or 3) Art & Garden Event

The Commission decided to hold the 5K FunRAiser during the Art & Garden Event—May 30, 2020 at 8 a.m. Set up at 6 a.m. Entry Fee: $20

Need:

- Police Reserves to assist with traffic control
- Need confirmation from Police Chief
- Need Flyers
- T-shirts (?) Char will check with Advanced Sportswear.

F. Art & Garden Event—May 30, 2020 at Noon with setup at 11 a.m.

Need:

- Flyer in jpg format for Andy to post on Facebook
- Add 5K Race to flyer.

G. Appoint Rachel Ortmeier

Motion by Ornquist, second by Cison to recommend the appointment of Rachel Ortmeier to the Parks & Recreation Commission immediately. Motion carried 3-0.

OPEN DISCUSSION:
A. Legion Fish Fry—mark your calendar, the P&R Commission will be helping with the Fish Fry on Friday, March 13 beginning at 5 p.m.

B. Lions Donation Request—Commission Member Whitbred-Hemmingson suggested that the Commission submit their request for donation to the Lions Club prior to April.

The Commission has solicited a quote from Park Grove Electric in the amount of $1,500 for the installation of a timer for the lights at the skating rink. A letter to request donation will be sent to the Lions Club for this project.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Next meeting—March 12, 2020 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted February 19, 2020 by Commission Secretary Ornquist
Important Dates:
- February 21—Bunco Night (7 p.m.)
- March 13—American Legion Fish Fry (5 p.m.)
- March 20—Bunco Night (7 p.m.)
- April 18—Adopt-a-Park Picnic (11 a.m.)
- May 30—Art & Garden Event/5K FunRaiser (8 a.m.)

Agenda Items:
- March—Carbone’s Fundraiser
  March—Set dates for Movies in the Park
  March—Finalize Bunco Night
- May—2021 Budget Planning
  May—Finalize Art & Garden Event
  May—Finalize 5K RunRaiser
- August—Discuss Holiday Lights Contest Bus Tour
Veteran Memorial Park
This park is to pay tribute to our service members who have served in the armed forces. Each bench indicates a significant war or conflict in which we wish to remember. In the center of the park is a moment surrounded by the flags of the Armed Forces. In the background you will see the words “United We Stand” displayed on the pavilion which is supported by each of the States of America. The foundation is made of engraved bricks purchased by those showing support for our service members.

Pavilion
- Each pillar would represent a State (or 4 States to a pillar)
- Floor could be engraved bricks purchased by residents, supporters, etc.
- An enclosed kitchen facility could be installed on the north side of pavilion.
- Bathroom facility.
- The words “United We Stand” would be engraved on the beam in the pavilion which would be seen from the monument and benches.

Monument
- Monument stays in existing location
- Additional flag poles are added to represent each of the Armed Forces.
  - Army
  - Air Force
  - Marines
  - Navy
  - Space Force
  - Coast Guard
- The POW/MIA flag would fly below the USA flag on same pole
- Add lighting.

Memorial Benches
- Each bench would be engraved with a war/conflict and date of event.