Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Those present:
Andy Cison, Chairperson
Charlene Whitbred-Hemmingson
Chelsie Bowker
Micah Bender
Cindy Domeier (acting as secretary for minutes)

Also present:
Bruce Zenner - Council Liaison
Jeff Dionisopoulos, Public Works Supervisor
Jeff Swenson, Council Member
Crystal Bauer, SPPAA Field and Equipment Director
Melissa Thoms, SPPAA President

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:
Motion by Bender, second by Bowker to approve May 2, 2019 minutes. Motioned carried 5-0.

AGENDA ITEMS:
A: Athletic Association: Discussion regarding need, replacement, and placement of batting cages as a result of new Water Treatment facility. The batting cages have already been removed from the original site in prep for new construction of Water Treatment Facility. The cages are no longer the possession of SPP. It had already been determined from preliminary bids obtained by Jeff Dionisopoulos, due to labor, more expense to reuse the previous fencing material.

SPPAA stated 160 currently in combined baseball/softball programs this season. This number is expected to remain same over next years as many are in the younger programs. They consider the batting cages to be extremely important to be competitive with other programs and improve skills of our players. They would like to see two lane batting cage near shed where equipment is stored or having cages covered to keep equipment or build shed near cages for easier usage of the batting cages. They would like to see it located in Whitbred Park. They have already determined that they will not have batting cages until 2021.

It was agreed that the cost of the replacement cages needs to be a part of a comprehensive redevelopment plan for Whitbred Park for 2021. The P&R Commission will discuss their wants for this park (skatepark? more fields? approach school district about annexing the hockey rink and open fields? create more fields - ball or soccer, storm water drainage) at next meeting. SPPAA will attend P&R Commission meeting in Thursday with their final ideas. Grants or letters to businesses (3M, Twins?) will be considered to help offset costs. The SPPAA (a 501C non-profit) has had limited success at fundraisers, mostly using the funds to help families needing help with registration. A joint fundraiser, SPPAA and SPP P&R Commission will be considered as well for the redevelopment.

B. SURVEY MONKEY: Survey to get feedback on citizens input for lower half of Heritage Park was conducted and 98 responses received. Conclusion: Corn Hole game is desired. Money had previously been raised (unknown $) for Public Works to build. We need to confirm this money is still available and work with Public Works to get this project completed as soon as possible.
C. HERITAGE DAYS:
1. 5K RACE: Andy Cison and Chelsea Bowker attended Heritage Days planning meeting this Monday and they approved us co-chairing with the SPP Newport Lions a 5K race on Sunday morning of Heritage Days weekend. This is being held as a “Runraiser” with proceeds for us going to Whitbred Park Redevelopment. Time: 8 a.m. Entry Fee: $20 (split with Lions). Starting point: Masons Lodge (Andy to talk with Al from Masons to get their approval as starting point). Racing route has been planned and volunteers will be needed at registration, points along the way and at end. We will approach Hyvee and/or Cub to sponsor food for runners at end. Lions Club will provide water. Because this is a fundraiser, we would not be offering prizes, t-shirts, etc., but may consider some pin to give (Andy will look into this). Chelsea to work on poster and Cindy to create registration form to add to facebook to begin advertising the event.

2. FIREWORKS: We had previously agreed to hand out glow in the dark stick again this year. We have approx. 50 leftover from the sledding event. Micah will approach a source he has who may be willing to donate more. If we have any leftover funds, after purchase of shed, we will consider ordering more if needed.

D. COMMUNITY GARDEN: It was consensus of Commission to move forward with purchase of shed for approx. $3500. Andy will work with Sharon to get the bid approved to purchase and get further breakdown of our donations and fundraiser monies year to date. From $500 donated by Lions for tools for shed, initial purchase of heavy duty red hose and sprayers were purchased (approx $85). Additional items will be purchased once shed is up.

E. BOY SCOUTS EAGLE PROJECTS: A big thank you to the Boy Scouts for the completion of the two Eagle Scout projects: New bed, 2 small and 1 larger, at Community Garden installed prior to Art in Garden Event. Thanks to Rumpca for Dirt! Hockey Rink painting/Benches at Community Garden Library. Also thanks to all volunteers. Combined efforts resulted in great improvements and additions to keep St Paul Park looking good! Boy Scouts will be submitting cost for paint supplies. Thanks to Park Place for food donation for volunteers.

F. PARKS UPDATE:

Public Works Supervisor Dionisopoulos updated the Commission on the following:

A. Heritage Days new playground is all installed with finalization including woodchips, hydroseeding, and irrigation followed by benches and new water fountain with planned completion by June 21. There will be no rededication.

G. MOVIES IN THE PARK: Good attendance at the first Movie. Masons reported best business they’ve had at any of the movies. We agreed need to add to flyers that Masons selling for $1 hot dog, popcorn and drink. What a deal!

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:
Whitbred Park Redevelopment ideas, including hockey rink base (Micah had initial conversation with Mann Excavating and they would be open donating crushed aggregate? or Char will get estimate on asphalt).

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Next meeting - July 11 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted June 14, 2019, by Cindy Domeier, filling in for Commission Secretary

Important Dates:
July 13 - Movies in the Park - Scooby Doo - 7 p.m. Set up
August 16 - Heritage Days Fireworks - Heritage Park - hand out Glow in Dark sticks - Dusk
August 18 - Heritage Days 1st Annual P&R/Lions Runraiser - 8 am
August 24 - Movies in the Park - Frozen - 7 p.m. Set up

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