

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the special meeting of the Brainerd Park Board was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Board President Shipe.

Upon roll call, the following board members were noted present: Miller, Shipe, Yeager, and Rushmeyer. Schaefer arrived a few minutes later.

Also noted present were City Engineer/Public Works Director Dehn, Riverfront Committee members Eric Roberts and Don Gorham, as well as Jim Roelofs from the original Planning Committee.

### **Approval of the Agenda - Approved**

MOVED AND SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBERS YEAGER AND MILLER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Approve MLT Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting Event Details**

Dehn stated MLT Park is reserved on Saturday, June 3 for the Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting. Discussion was had on what the park board and original planning committee feels would be great at this event, and where to find funding for the band and amplification. Don Gorham stated he would be able to provide a contact that would be helpful with amplification and technical aspects. Gorham would also be able to provide a list of specific people to be included in receiving a formal invitation.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY RUSHMEYER AND YEAGER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE GRAND OPENING/RIBBON CUTTING ON JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> FROM 11 A.M. TO 3 P.M WITH A BUDGET OF \$2,000.00 (TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS) TO HELP FUND ONE OR TWO BANDS AND AN AMPLIFICATION/TECH PERSON. EVENT TO INCLUDE DNR NATURE EDUCATION, A KAYAK VENDOR/OUTFITTER, AND UP TO THREE FOOD VENDORS. ALSO, TO INCLUDE CARL FAUST AND THE HISTORY GROUP WITH HISTORY OF RIVER/PARK, WONDERTREK IF THEY ARE AVAILABLE, AND IF POSSIBLE, THE JAYCEES TO SELL ALCOHOL. STAFF IS DIRECTED TO FIND DONATIONS AS A FUNDING SOURCE AND APPLY FOR COMMUNITY ACTION GRANT.

#### **Discussion on Proposed Use of Remaining LCCMR Funds at MLT Park**

Dehn stated he had discussions regarding what would be allowed in the scope of the project for the remainder of the LCCMR Funds. The remaining funds need to be spent by June 2024. Unfortunately, art, Wi-Fi, security systems, and new playground equipment are not allowed within the scope of the project. The water bottle filler, as well as a fence for safety by the playground could fit into the scope. After much discussion, the park board and original planning committee would also like to include brush clearing along the river to truly make this park a trailhead, they questioned if a kayak launch could fit in the scope, especially if it was ADA accessible. Also mentioned was additional signage with QR codes that link to GIS map of trail connections and points of interest in the City. Dehn had concerns with the kayak launch due to the changing water levels of the river and previous problems staff has had trying to get previous

February 15, 2023

docks in and out for the season. Dehn will ask some follow up questions to see if these items could be considered within the scope of the project and plans to draw up a formal document to present before the board.

### **MLT Park Discussion on Memorial Benches and Trees**

Dehn stated that we have received a request for a Memorial Bench to be placed at the new MLT Park. This prompted a discussion on if the Memorial Bench and Tree policy needs to be revised. MLT Park already has several benches and there is not a lot of room for additional benches to be placed.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY YEAGER AND MILLER TO REVISE THE MEMORIAL BENCH AND TREE POLICY MAKING MLT PARK EXEMPT. THE PARK BOARD HAS FINAL APPROVAL ON ALL MEMORIAL BENCHES AND TREES FOR PLACEMENT IN ALL PARKS.

### **Adjourn**

MOVED AND SECONDED BY SCHAEFER AND YEAGER, DULY CARRIED, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:27 P.M. TO THE JOINT WORKSHOP WITH CITY COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 27, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cari LaRose, Administrative Specialist

February 15, 2023