

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 Rushmeyer.

Upon roll call, the following members were noted as present: Boeder, Schaefer, Shipe, Yeager, Rushmeyer, and City Council Liaison Dave Badeaux.

Also noted present were Recreation Coordinator Kaufman, City Administrator Bergman, and Travis Miller from TWM Architecture. City Engineer Sandy was noted absent.

Approval of the Agenda - Approved

MOVED AND SECONDED BY MEMBERS YEAGER AND SCHAEFER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Unfinished Business

Park Board Work Session-Parks Master Planning

Work Session Notes

Mr. Yeager had an enlarged map of Kiwanis Park for the Board to view and went through the planning worksheet item by item. Buster Park is located within Kiwanis Park, but it was decided to discuss the dog park at a future meeting. Existing trails, the riverfront, access to the park and parking were discussed. The Board would like to improve portions of the cycling path, particularly where it comes in under the bridge, and talked about painting a bike lane. It was agreed the playground is well-used and to keep it maintained. Amy Price maintains the flowerbed. Uses for Boom Lake were discussed including checking with the DNR about possibly stocking it with trout or installing a fountain. It is not great for swimming. One-night pup tent camping spaces was suggested, with one board member expressing a concern about homeless people using them. Clearing around the water edges was discussed, as well as managing the natural vegetation. For winter activities Mr. Yeager suggested a road course style hockey skate-through on Boom Lake. Board members liked the idea and suggested tying it into a winter event. Skating and snowshoeing were mentioned, and the possibility of converting the pavilion to a seasonal warming place if the lake starts to get a lot of winter use.

Board members agreed that updated signage that meets the design standards is needed, and to incorporate Buster and Rotary parks with any new signage. An information kiosk that includes a map and wayfinding would be helpful to park visitors.

Mr. Rushmeyer opened a discussion about a long-term maintenance-free restroom structure versus putting \$66,000 into the existing building. Board members agreed to proceed with the scheduled renovations but do some clearing from the pavilion down to the lake to make it more appealing as a gathering space. Mr. Miller reported on the improvements that will be made to Pavilion 2. Better bench placement in the parks was discussed. There was discussion about clearing brush down to the river and planting grass, and possibly eliminating the kayak launch at this location. Parking will be left as is and will be discouraged on the river side of the road.

Adjourn

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED TO THE APRIL 19 WORK SESSION TO REVIEW
KIWANIS PARK PLAN AND DISCUSS ROTARY PARK.

Mr. Yeager will bring drawings of Kiwanis Park for the next Park Board meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Finch, Administrative Specialist

April 5, 2022