

**Brainerd, MN  
March 23, 2021**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the Brainerd Park Board was called to order at 4:00 P.M. by Board President Yeager.

Present were President Kevin Yeager, Tim Boeder, Dale Parks, Kara Schaefer and Troy Rushmeyer.

Also noted present were Mayor Badeaux, City Administrator Bergman, Alderwoman Stenglein, City Engineer Sandy and Recreation Coordinator Kaufman.

Park Board President Yeager opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**Approval of the Agenda**

THERE WERE NO ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

**Approval of the Consent Calendar - Approved**

MOVED AND SECONDED BY MEMBERS PARKS AND RUSHMEYER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

- A. Approval of The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 23, 2021, and the Special Meeting held on March 16, 2021**
- B. Approval of the Disbursements for March 2021**

**Unfinished Business**

**Request to Review and Approve Buster Park Gazebo Design-Direction Given**

Mr. Yeager provided two designs for the Buster Park gazebo that is in the budget to be replaced. If the Park Board approves a design, he will provide detailed drawings and work with maintenance staff to order materials and provide an idea of how it is to be constructed. Following discussion, board members agreed to go with a 14' X 14' design with a single-pitch roof. Other possible cost savings were discussed. Low maintenance materials will be used. Mr. Yeager will draft a new design based on the Board's direction.

**Request to Review Youth Banner Sales Budget Allocation - Approved**

Ms. Kaufman asked for clarification to allow funds from banner sales on youth fields to be earmarked in the Park Dedication Fund for improvements specifically for youth fields.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY RUSHMEYER AND BOEDER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE PLACING YOUTH BANNER SALES IN THE PARK DEDICATION FUND, AS PRESENTED.

March 23, 2021

## **New Business**

### **Request to Discuss Gregory Park Parking Issues - Approved**

Mr. Sandy reported there have been complaints from northside residents and Alderman Bevans about people parking in Gregory Park for long periods of time and multiple days a week. He is seeking approval to place gates across the driveway in Gregory Park to prevent parking in the park. Following discussion, the Board directed staff to place a NO PARKING sign at the driveway entrance to see if that alleviates the problem before installing a gate or looking at other options.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY MEMBERS RUSHMEYER AND SCHAEFER, DULY CARRIED, TO HAVE STAFF PLACE A NO PARKING SIGN AT THE GREGORY PARK DRIVEWAY ENTRANCE.

### **Request to Review Policy in Regard to Facility Locking After Hours - Discussion**

Last year the Park Board elected to keep bathrooms unlocked after hours. Gregory Park has become an issue for maintenance staff with vandalism and having to kick people out that are spending the night in the restroom facilities. Mr. Sandy would like the Park Board to review the policy of leaving the restrooms open, or to start locking them after hours as we've done in the past. Automatic locks would require crash bars on the exits so nobody gets locked inside. Board members would like an idea of what vandalism repairs cost in a year, and asked staff to research the option of having someone make the rounds to clear and lock restrooms when parks close at night. Maintenance staff opens the restrooms in the morning. Item tabled.

### **Discussion on a Sesquicentennial Event – Discussion**

Ms. Bergman reported that Mayor Badeaux and Councilwoman Stenglein have volunteered to represent the Council in planning for the sesquicentennial. Mary Devine Johnson with Visit Brainerd is also involved. The week of September 18-25 will be the Sesquicentennial Celebration Week. Community members and the Downtown Business Coalition are being asked to plan events throughout that week. The committee is asking if the Park Board would be interested in planning an event that week. Ms. Stenglein thought a community picnic in a park on Saturday, September 25, would be one idea to wrap up the week with an event that everyone can get involved in and families can be a part of. Mr. Rushmeyer suggesting tying in a grand opening at the re-designed Memorial Park that has a completion date in September, which could also be an opportunity to present to the public other things that are coming up with the parks like the Lum Park design. Board members will come back with ideas at the next meeting. Mayor Badeaux would really like to see a community event on September 25 to wrap up the event week.

## **Public Forum**

The Chair opened the public forum at 4:42 p.m.

No one came forward.

The Chair closed the public forum at 4:42 p.m.

## **City Engineer and Recreation Coordinator Report**

Ms. Kaufman added two teams to the Early Bird Tournament for a total of 14 teams and provided updated enrollment numbers for the adult softball leagues. A press release was sent out regarding Community Education and YMCA registrations, and a collaborative interview was done by Lakeland Public Television. Quarterly reports and payments will be included with the next Park Board meeting. Warming house participation numbers were provided. The Easter Egg Hunt is almost full. Concession stand licensing information was provided. The Viking Coca-Cola contract will expire in March of 2022. The Park Board will discuss what concessions may look like going forward at a future meeting. They will look at costs versus revenues as well as capital needs.

Mr. Sandy reported that bids were opened for Memorial Park and staff is currently working on contract signatures with Anderson Brothers. He has scheduled the design standards kick-off meeting with Widseth for April 13. A list of spring maintenance projects and duties was provided. The Splash Pad committee is getting extremely close to its \$100,000 goal so may not have to eliminate any equipment from the original plan. The Board would like to tie in the Splash Pad grand opening with Memorial Park's. The keys to Mill Avenue Park have been turned over to Mike Higgins with the Brainerd Industrial Center.

### **Adjourn**

MOVED AND SECONDED AT 5:00 P.M. BY PARKS AND BOEDER, DULY CARRIED,  
TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TO THE APRIL 13, 2021, SPECIAL MEETING.

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Kim Finch  
Administrative Specialist