



## PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2024

### 1. ROLL CALL:

**Members Present:** Mayor; Scott Korthuis, Councilors; Gary Vis, and Nick Laninga

**Staff Present:** City Administrator; John Williams, Parks Director; Brent DeRuyter, and Parks Admin. Assistant; Nancy Norris, PW Programs Manager; Mark Sandel

**Guest:** Rec. District Commissioner; Bob Johnson

### 2. ACTION ITEMS:

#### A. Approval of Parks Committee Minutes- April 15, 2024

Vis motioned to approve the April 15, 2024, minutes, Laninga concurred Parks Committee approved the motion to approve the Parks Committee April 15, 2023, Minutes.

### 3. INFORMATION ITEMS:

#### A. Information on Benson Barn

Hoping to receive a number from DeYoung & Roosma soon. Had not received anything as of agenda entry.

#### B. Updates on Parks and Trails

##### Benson Park

The windmill is still being completed. It is getting close a local masonry will be completing the base of the windmill in the next few months or so.

Timber for the new Schoolyard project will be stored here in the coming months.

##### Schoolyard Park

Finalizing architectural plans and permits, Documents need to be sent electronically and the Zoning needs to be updated to "Public Use".

Reviewing the RM2 zoning, the Parks Committee discovered that Dickenson Park, Drayton Trail and VanderGriend Trail sections zoning needs to be updated to "Public Use" as well.

##### Trails

Phase 2 (Bridge Phase) is hours from being completed and mitigation is completed on both ends of the bridge.

Phase 3 bids are still being reviewed and Parks and PW will not be completing the removal of the remaining VGL structure. This will be a part of the Phase 3 contract. PW Programs Manager Mark Sandel gave a report to the Parks Committee concerning the bidding process for phase 3.



## PARKS DEPARTMENT

Brent De Ruyter, Parks Director  
(360) 354 - 6717

### **Parks Department Shop Addition Project**

Additional contractors are still being pursued.

### **C. Updated Project List**

The Parks Committee discussed future projects and upgrades for existing parks.

### **D. Staff response to Berthusen Park safety concerns**

A large LED light is ordered for the entrance area to alleviate some concerns for security and safety in the evenings. This work is being done by the city electrician.

### **E. Seasonal Employee Updates**

Lane Dykstra started today, and the other 2 seasonal employees Laine DeJong and Adia Newcomb will begin in the next 2 weeks.

## **4. ITEMS ADDED**

**A. Bender Field Lights RCO Grant:** Parks Director DeRuyter shared the ballfield lights are at the end of their life span, you can no longer get replacement fixtures/ballast, there are several of them that need to be replaced. This has created a safety issue for the leagues that play on these fields.

DeRuyter switched the RCO Grant for Benson Park to funding the replacing the Bender ballfield lights, the approximate cost is \$600,000. This is a 50/50 match grant. The application deadline was May 1<sup>st</sup> with the first review by June.

### **B. Forge Fitness Roof Replacement:**

The Mayor gave a brief update on the funding status for replacing the roof on the Forge Fitness building.

### **C. Suspension Bridge Slide Show Presentation:**

Mayor Korthuis presented a slide show of the construction of the suspension bridge highlighting the handful of dedicated volunteers who constructed the bridge over the last seven (7) months.

**Meeting Adjourned: 5:36PM**

**NEXT MEETING- Monday, June 17, 2024**