

City of Columbus Park Board Meeting

March 20, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Vice Chair Jim Ingalls, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: Jim Ingalls, Bob Bodene, Andrew Fraley, Sandie Wood, and Marilyn Didling.

Members Absent: Terry Phinney and Andrea Messina

Also Present: Council Member Denny Peterson, Public Works –Jim Windingstad, Sam Alley –YMCA representative, and Secretary Lorie Lemieux.

Approval of Minutes

Sandy Wood made a **motion** to approve the February 27, 2014 minutes. Second by Marilyn Didling. Motion was approved.

Agenda Additions or Deletions

None.

2014 YMCA Park Play Days

Sam Alley, YMCA Youth Development Director, (attended for Jean Sanon) was present at tonight's meeting to share ideas in promoting Park Play Days held at the Columbus Park this summer. Three other cities participating this year are Golden Lake in Circle Pines, Wyoming, and Forest Lake. Sam reported the program lost \$2,000.00 last year, therefore; the Y has set a minimum participant requirement. The City of Columbus's requirement will be 10 registrants per session and a contribution of \$800.00 per session. If the minimum participation is not met, the Y will cancel the program due to low enrollment and refund the city their financial contribution amount. Last year Golden Lake and Forest Lake each had over 40 participants in each session. However, both cities have been involved in the program for years. The board inquired how other communities market the program and Sam explained that some are YMCA members along with distributing flyers in backpacks at the schools. Bob Bodene suggested a representative from YMCA be present at the Columbus Elementary Family Fun Fest held the first Friday in May. This would be an opportunity to reach a large number of families with information about the program. Lorie Lemieux will contact Jean Sanon and

ask that he contact Neil Fox at the elementary school and see if the YMCA can participate in the fun fest event.

The board feels they need to inform the YMCA that the budget is set for 2014 with \$1,000.00 for this program and agree to promote this program for the first session for \$800.00. If there is a positive response for session 2, the board suggests having a conversation with the Y stating they only have \$200.00 remaining in the budget to cover the second session but are providing many registrants to hopefully make it worthwhile to hold a second session.

Treasurer's Report

Park Fund ending balance for 12/31/13 \$52,374.49

The Park Fund is a general fund account used for park operations expenses. It receives revenue from Anoka County property taxes, interest income, reservation fees, tower rental, and voluntary quarterly contributions from Running Aces.

Park Capital Fund ending balance for 12/31/13 \$22,501.11

The Park Capital Fund is used to purchase equipment and projects over \$5,000.

Park Land Fund ending balance for 12/31/13 \$8,229.54

The Park Land Fund is money that comes from developers. It can be used for purchases specific to the parks, such as land, fencing, playground equipment, etc.

City Administrator/PW Superintendent's Report

a) Park Maintenance Contractor Bid and Recommendation

Jim Windingstad went over the duties of the park maintenance provider, RVS. Bob Bodene made a **motion** to recommend to the city council to accept the 2014 RVS contract. Second by Andrew Fraley. Motion was approved.

b) 2014 Budget

The budget approved for 2014 allows for purchase of a utility tractor projected at \$15,000. The tractor purchase will be pushed out to 2015 at this time since the maintenance contract was approved for this year.

c) Park Waiver Form – to be continued. The City attorney is going to review and research other options.

Old Business

a) Phase 3 of Playground Installation

As of the date, the bearing issue has not been resolved. The bearing is being redesigned and should be ready for installation this spring.

b) Concrete Work: Board action and Bid

Council member Peterson informed the board that the council approved \$6,500.00 for concrete work. Jim Windingstad noted as soon as the snow melts they will obtain bids for the project, including curbing around both sets of swings, concrete pads under bleachers, picnic tables and equipment boxes.

c) New Message Center

Board Members looked at different options of message board centers. This will be placed in a corner under the pavilion so it will not be subject to the elements. Jim Ingalls made a **motion** to purchase a large single sided vertical message center in desert tan. Second by Marilyn Didling. Motion was approved.

d) Timber Barrier Alternatives

Jim Windingstad mentioned that the City Council wants the Board to still consider options in replacing the timbers in place along Kettle River Boulevard. Councilmember Peterson stated he had brought different alternatives to the council and a chain link fence was bought up be considered around the playground. Peterson asked the board to bring back pricing that he can present to the council. Jim Windingstad will get a bid price per foot for a 4 foot high fence.

e) Parking Lot Expansion

Board Members continued discussion of the idea of expanding the main parking lot approximately 50-60 feet north in the Columbus Park. Jim Windingstad informed the board that Rice Creek Watershed District will need to be contacted initially to see that this would be allowable. The board discussed other cost factors including removing trees, bringing in fill, moving driveways, etc. This expansion would potentially create 16 additional parking spots.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be April 17, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Works Building

Adjourn

Marilyn Didling made a **motion** to adjourn. Second by Sandy Wood. Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Lorie Lemieux, Recording Secretary