

City of Columbus Park Board Meeting

January 25, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Sandie Wood called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: Sandie Wood, Andrea Messina, and Bob Bodene.

Members Absent: Marilyn Didling

It was announced that Andrew Fraley has resigned from the Park Board.

Also Present: Council Member Mark Daly, Public Works Superintendent Jim Windingstad, and Secretary Karen Boland.

Approval of Minutes

Bob Bodene made a **motion** to approve the August 3, 2017 minutes. Second by Andrea Messina. Motion was approved.

Agenda Additions or Deletions

Jim said there are no financial reports currently available due to the current staff shortage. There will be no Treasurer's Report, Review of Schedule D or 2018 Budget discussion.

Treasurer's Report

No current figures were available.

Jim did report that with new developments coming in, the Parks have received \$56,862. There was also a one-time donation of \$50.

City Administrator/PW Superintendent Report

a) Roundabout

The City is looking for ideas on what the roundabout at Broadway and Kettle River Boulevard should look like. The Council has not yet established a budget for this. There will be another roundabout at Hwys. 97 and 54 in the future. That one will have water access and power available.

b) Park Tour Items Follow-Up

- The swings have been painted. The broken swing was welded.
- Wooden picnic tables will be replaced with tables comparable to those already at the park. Tables will be rearranged within the park

so the tables under the pavilion will match. Deputy City Clerk Lorie Lemieux may be able to use recycling money to purchase one or two of the tables.

c) Park Usage Information

Board members looked at the field usage information provided. Field usage nearly doubled between 2016 and 2017.

For the April meeting, Board members would like to see a current fee schedule for City fields and pavilion use, and a survey of that same information from surrounding communities. They would like to consider a fee increase to be implemented in 2019.

d) Porta Potties Contract

There will be no increase in the Porta Potties contract this year. However, because these fees have remained the same for many years, the Board may want to plan for an increase when setting the 2019 budget.

Jim added that the cost for TruGreen increased this year for the first time in a long time.

Old Business

a) Playground Equipment Suggestions

Jim will look into adult exercise equipment options for the City Park. Andrea Messina will take some pictures of a park in Arizona with simple adult equipment. The Board will also consider whether there should be equipment stations along the trail as well as by the children's playground.

New Business

a) Columbus Fall Fest

Park Board members are not interested in organizing a booth or activity for the Fall Fest. None were interested in volunteering time at the festival.

b) Other Parks

At the same City Council meeting when closure of Howard Lake Park was going to be proposed, a request was received to update it. A resident who cares for special needs children would like to walk to the park from her home. She would like to see upgraded equipment. There was discussion of the small amount of use of the park. She said she was going to bring a petition around to neighbors in the area to determine interest in keeping it. This question could also be posed on social media on the City's website. Jim

asked if Board members would like to send a flyer out to residents in the surrounding area to get their thoughts.

Public Works has cleared the brush around the swings. If the park is not closed, there should be further work done on it. Jim said the swingset is fine, but the park is not ADA compliant. There are no parking spaces and Public Works personnel have witnessed danger in crossing the street there, despite signs and a crosswalk. The only cost right now is for mowing.

Sandie Wood said when she presented the budget to the City Council they were not interested in keeping the park open.

The Board agreed to re-visit this item in April to determine if Howard Lake Park should stay open. The City can ask about park usage on social media, and if the woman brings in a petition, that will be considered. No flyer will be sent.

At some point in the future, the Board may want to consider upgrades for Hidden Park.

- c) Sandie Wood brought some aerial pictures of City Park.
- d) This will be Secretary Karen Boland's last Park Board meeting. Lorie Lemieux will take minutes at the April meeting.
- e) Councilmember Daly and Bob Bodene will try to recruit potential Board members to fill Andrew Fraley's spot.
- f) Sandie Wood will continue as Chair for 2018, but would like to see someone else take over in 2019.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be **April 26, 2018** at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Works Building. Note that this is a deviation from the normal meeting schedule.

Adjourn

Sandie Wood made a **motion** to adjourn. Second by Bob Bodene. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Karen Boland, Recording Secretary