

**Park Board
July 15, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: Park Board Chair Al Vorderbrueggen called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Al Vorderbrueggen, Blaine Golden, Hillary Hoffman and Al Kirkpatrick: Present.
Don Moore: Absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Hoffman to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All yes.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Pool Update:

The contract with WMS has been signed for the pool and the down payment has been mailed out.

Safety fence has been placed around the construction zone and containers moved in for storage during construction.

Hammer stated WMS is waiting on permits from the state to begin construction.

Retzer thought the first of August they should be permitted and ready to start work. Public works will help with some of the demo.

Retzer discussed having someone come up with a map and QR code for the disc golf course at Schmuck Park. Retzer lined up someone to fly the course with a drone to get measurements and map it out.

Retzer remembered Donna Huntwork has a group that was looking for 50 hours of community service, maybe this could be a project for them to do.

Nannette Nebe leads a 4-H group that is currently stripping and repainting the bathroom stalls at McDonald Park.

Nebe is also leading an FBLA group that is handling concessions for baseball and softball games. They are fundraising for a trip to FBLA Nationals in Florida.

The Rotary drinking fountain is broken again at McDonald Park.

Kirkpatrick, stated Bob Lothspeich got parts and fixed it but it then wouldn't shut off. They had to turn it off until they could get parts to fix the current problem.

Retzer thanked Kirkpatrick for spraying broadleaf at McDonald Park.

Hammer stated they are working on the sprinkler system at McDonald Park.

Retzer informed Hammer there is a broken line or sprinkler head by the new scoreboard in the softball field.

Hoffman asked about the pool funding shortfall.

Retzer stated the city applied for .09 funds and received \$69,000. Retzer is also working with Kara Riebold from the Port of Whitman, she has some connections for possible funding. Retzer reached out to Paul Kimmel from Avista, there are some rebates for the new light fixtures for the pool. Kimmel was going to contact Schweitzer Engineering as well.

Skate Park:

Hillary Hoffman stated they reached out to the same company, American Ramp Company, that put in the skate park, mainly because it has lasted so long and is a great product.

Abe Hoffman introduced himself to the Park Board and presented the estimates for the fixing the skatepark.

Hoffman explained the importance of the skate park to the kids that use it.

The ARC (American Ramp Company) has a great product and has lasted 20 years so far. The goal right now would be to maintain existing ramps. To paint the existing ramp with professional paint will be about \$35,000, this would also include removing the rust, tightening the bolts and fix the copings. Right now, they want to just maintain it.

Hoffman asked ARC for plans for an expansion; to add a 100 X 150 ft expansion and the maintenance of the existing ramps would be about \$200,000.

Hoffman stated there are 3 or 4 boarders and 7- 11 scooters use the park regularly right now; this doesn't include the few random visitors. Hoffman stated our skatepark is unique, the island is where you start, as you get better there is a 6 ft halfpipe. No other parks around have 6 ft drops.

The original park cost around \$70,000, volunteers raised the money and helped the company construct the fixtures.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Kirkpatrick stated the McClintock family would like a memorial for Bones at one of the parks. Bones was on the park board for 40 years and was instrumental in building McDonald Park.

Retzer informed everyone we need to be sensitive about renaming anything at McDonald Park, the McDonald family donated the land for McDonald Park and would like it to remain in their name.

Kirkpatrick and Vorderbrueggen will speak with Denny McDonald about possible ideas for a memorial for Bones.

UPCOMING MEETING:

Next meeting will be September 16th at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Vorderbrueggen adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.


Lynda Kramlich
Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk