

Park & Recreation Board Minutes
City Council Chambers, City Hall, 612 N. Main Street
May 11, 2023

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chris Retterath, President of the Board, at 6:00 PM

Present: Chris Retterath, Andy Jerke, Pat Skinner, Luke Norden, Dennis Thompson, Adam Schulz

Absent: Clayton Deuter. Council Liaison: Marty Barington

Staff present: Kevin Nelson, Kevin DeVries, Steve Roth, Jeremy Nielsen

2. Oath Of Office: Angel DeWaard To Issue Oath Of Office To New Park Board Members Dennis Thompson And Adam Schultz

Angel DeWaard issued the Oath of Office to New Park Board Members: Dennis Thompson and Adam Schulz.

3. Citizen's Input

4. DELEGATIONS

5. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Motion Norden, Second Thompson to approve Agenda. Motion carried.

6. Minutes

Minutes of the April 13, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Motion Jerke, Second Skinner to approve the April 13, 2023 Minutes as read. Motion carried.

7. Approve Financial Reports

Motion Norden, Second Schulz to approve the Bills as submitted. Motion carried.

8. Department Reports

Recreation Board Report

April 14 – May 11

Kevin DeVries

Programs:

Summer program registration got under way April 17th. So far, registration has been good, still have plenty of room in baseball and softball, but those programs usually don't fill up right away as there is not a limit until late May.

We did have to cut some swim lessons out that were originally in the brochure. We are hoping that if we can get more lifeguards and swim instructors by the end of May, we can add more classes back.

We are still short on lifeguards. Our plan right now is to concentrate on opening the Outdoor Aquatic Center. We will be closing at 6:00 p.m. so we have enough instructors for the evening swim lessons. Again, if we get enough guards, we will stay open longer. Our plan is to open June 2nd. Staff will be helping Steve's crew get things ready.

Recreation Center:

The indoor aquatic center has been busy on weekends and for now we are still going month by month with the open swim schedule. Our birthday parties picked up for the month of May, so that is a good sign. We still plan on not having guarded open swim times due to the lifeguard shortage, but families can still come in with their kids and supervise them. The play features will not be available.

Our morning swim classes have been very well attended. We've had a few days of 25-30 per class, so they are all very happy to see the pool open.

The old pool remodel is moving along. With the wall opened up and 2 of the doorways taken out in the hallways, it really opens things up nicely. They should be ready to sheet rock the walls, paint and put the ceiling in this month and into early June.

The afterschool program will be coming to an end this month. It was a little cramped when the back gym was down but they were able to get that back open for us earlier than expected, which helps spread the kids out. Staff will be meeting in the next couple months on ideas for the current multipurpose room and what that will look like for kids when the new room opens up.

Thomas and Adam are staying busy with members during the day and athletes after school. Things will really pick up more with that each week as kids get done with their winter activities and have even more time. We will be meeting on the summer programming this month.

Parks & Forestry Board Report May 2023

- Tree removals
- Cleaned up tree piles from around the lake
- Put trash cans out in the parks
- Cleaning up branches in parks
- Cleaning landscape beds at the Plaza and downtown areas
- Cleaning up around the Campground
- Turning water on to shelters, restrooms, irrigation system and Campground
- Making repairs in shelters and restrooms
- Fertilized irrigated parks and downtown areas
- The new pool heater got installed at the outdoor pool
- Got our mosquito foggers running and calibrated for the summer
- Planted 4 trees with a group of volunteers for Arbor Day

PARK BOARD REPORT – SPORTS COMPLEX May 11, 2023

ICE ARENA:

- Hockey and figure skating is all done. Ice is out on both sheets.
- 2022-23 season MFSC paid \$24,351.50. MSHA paid \$77,967.75.

CADWELL:

- Put sun shades up, painted foul lines on 12 fields, irrigation is on, started mowing, cleaning bathrooms, garbage's, prepping for games, start to go through irrigation heads.
- DWU baseball and softball are done with games. MHS softball has 2 home games left. MHS spring baseball has one game left then starts legion, junior legion and teener black and white.
- We had the Early Bird Tournament May 6, 32 teams using 10 fields. Kiwanis Tournament May 13. 10 teams using 3 fields.
- Drake scoreboard delivery date is May 11. I have been talking with Muth Electric the past couple weeks. Planning to have the new board up in the next 2 weeks.
- Dog Park raised funds for a picnic table. They had talked to Muth Electric about donating some big spools to be put out there. I will pick those up and bring them over.
- We will be fertilizing in the next couple weeks.

SOCCER:

- MSA has started their Saturday games. Last games are May 27. CSL practices until June 25th with no games.
- Started mowing, painting, irrigation, cleaning, maintenance and fertilizing.

May 2023 Director's Board Report

Campground Hosts

We received some sad news this past week, in that one of our hoped campground host couples accepted a similar position elsewhere. At present, this will leave us with one host couple (versus the typical two). They are not scheduled to begin until May 23, so full-time and possibly some other seasonal staff will be filling in as needed and following their arrival on site.

Dog Park

Some local dog park enthusiasts have taken it upon themselves to provide some needed maintenance and some limited improvements at the facility within the Cadwell Complex. It's fairly common knowledge that not all dog park users are good about cleaning up after themselves (their dogs), so others have stepped up (rather 'scooped' up) on a near-daily basis to help keep the grounds looking good. Park users have also done some brush clean-up and removal of branches which they thought were impeding. Our staff had already provided for the removal of any low-hanging branches, but volunteers took it one step further. Park users also recently donated an economical picnic table (intended to be a short-term solution) until the department budget will allow for purchasing dedicated picnic tables for the space. Staff will be providing materials for some of their other maintenance requests as well. Dog Park users have occasionally noted that they would like to fundraise for small shelter to be placed on site.

Veteran's Park

A snow-plowing mishap (on the sidewalk) happened early winter, and it seems that spring rolled in too(?) quickly, leaving the repair work yet to be completed. Staff had been awaiting the snow to leave so that they insurance adjuster could review it prior to making any changes to the site, other than moving some broken blocks and placing some cones. There should be some clean-

up taking place prior to the board meeting.

Disc Golf Sponsor Signage for Dry Run Creek

Donations were pursued for potential sponsorships of the tee box signs for designation of each of the baskets (holes). Ben Prill, a volunteer/disc golfer, was able to obtain \$1,800 in donations, enough to cover the costs of the signs plus create a reserve for maintenance of such. Thank you, Ben!

Arbor Day Tree Planting

The Day Camp grounds, much like other city-owned lake property, has been the beneficiary of quite a lot of maintenance late last fall. Brush, dead trees, and buckthorn were amongst that which was removed from the grounds. Then, to add to what remains of the trees, a group led by volunteer and lake advocate John McLeod, planted several trees out there this past Friday, Arbor Day. The holes had been augered in in advance of the planting by the parks crew. Four additional (larger) trees will be placed via tree spade in the not-too-distant future.

Indian School Mobile Library at Municipal Pool

I've been informed that an Indian school brings their mobile library to the parking lot across from the Aquatic Center one day each summer, in order that they might distribute books to residents. They have selected a date of June 15.

Retaining Wall at Public Beach

The neighbor whose property adjoins the east side of Public Beach asked that we stop out to look at the retaining wall along the east (entrance) driveway to the beach. The present wall consists of railroad ties, which are anchored, but they are showing deterioration and some leaning toward the driveway as well. Steve has sought some estimates to be able to seek this work to be a part of the 2024 budget.

9. Approve Mitchell Skating & Hockey Association 2023-2024 Agreement

Nielsen reviewed the Mitchell Skating & Hockey Association 2023-2024 Agreement, noting the only changes were as follows: Athlete Fee for ages 13 and up went a dollar to \$22 and ages 12 and under went up a dollar to \$12; Peak Hours Ice Time Fee \$79 per rink per hour; Off peak hours \$39.50 per hour per rink; Innovative Rink for rent for MSHA outside of MSHA Season Use Period, without ice is \$25 per hour. Motion Thompson, Second Schulz to approve the Mitchell Skating & Hockey Association 2023-2024 Agreement. Motion carried.

10. Approve Mitchell Figure Skating Club 2023-2024 Agreement

Nielsen reviewed the Mitchell Figure Skating Club 2023-2024 Agreement, noting the only changes were as follows: Athlete Fee for ages 13 and up went a dollar to \$22 and ages 12 and under went up a dollar to \$12; Peak Hours Ice Time Fee \$79 per rink per hour; Off peak hours \$39.50 per hour per rink; Innovative Rink for rent for MFSC outside of MFSC Season Use Period, without ice is \$25 per hour. Mitchell Figures Skating Club Board Members Sam & Brian questioned if it is really necessary to have in the agreement 20(a) Hockey tournaments on weekends shall have first priority to the use of the Facility to the extent required to accommodate such event. However, the City shall use reasonable efforts to schedule tournament activities in a manner which will minimize disruption to other groups who traditionally use the Facility during the proposed tournament times. The Sports Complex Supervisor shall have sole discretion over whether such an accommodation can reasonably be made. Nielsen noted he does have sole discretion and they would not lose their figure skating competition. However, the agreement can be tabled and further discussion with each group can be had. After a brief discussion, Motion Norden, Second Skinner to table the Mitchell Figure

Skating Club 2023-2024 Agreement until the next regular meeting of the Park Board. Motion carried.

11. Approve City of Mitchell Rink Rental Rate

Board reviewed the City of Mitchell Rink Rental Rate. Motion Norden, Second Jerky to approve the City of Mitchell Rink Rental Rate as submitted. Motion carried.

12. Next Meeting Date

Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 6:00 PM

13. Adjournment

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 6:55 PM