

11.18.2021 DRAFT Minutes Vergas Parks & Rec Advisory Board
4:30 p.m. Vergas Event Center

1. Members Present: Carol Albright, Steph Hogan, Sherri Hanson, Mike DuFrane. Paul Pinke arrived near the end of the meeting because he had a Comprehensive Planning Meeting.

Absent: Maggie Puetz

Others Present: Tony Sailer

2. Additions/Corrections to Agenda:

Board Members

Fence along Trail

Speed Limit

NDSU Department of Landscape Architecture

3. Approve October Minutes: Motion by Hanson/second by Hogan to approve the October minutes.

4. Skating Rink Update:

Fire Department will work with DuFrane to flood the rink. Sailer recommended spraying the water in layers to create a smooth surface; and to push snow out farther out than needed because with more snowfall the size of the rink will shrink. **DuFrane should check League of MN Cities rules about how thick the ice should be.** Plywood should be added to three sides of the picnic shelter to provide some protection from the wind. **DuFrane will get a price for porta potty rental from Anderson Septic.** Garbage cans will be added to the area. A Skating Rink Committee should be formed if people express an interest.

5. Swingset Update:

Hanson and Sailer met with Chris Johnson, St. Croix Recreation, Stillwater. The swingset will be placed next to the picnic shelter closest to the Boardwalk. Some leveling will be required. Johnson will send several configuration options with prices for the December meeting including installation cost. The request is for two bench swings, an infant bucket, and ADA or adult/child swing; plus wood chips with no border. Hanson has sent a thank you to the individual donor from this summer.

6. Trail Update: Julie Lammers has sent final grant reports.

Asphalt has been laid by Mark's Sand & Gravel. No bill has been forthcoming yet.

The "No Motorized Vehicles" sign is missing. **DuFrane will order a new one.**

If snowmobiles travel on the Boardwalk, we will address the problem.

Snowmobile Access to Long Lake will work on the Trail easement next to 88 Parkview Drive. Willows and brush have been cleared and stacked to form a natural barrier to the property. **DuFrane will go to the Ultra Snowmobile Club meeting to tell them about the changes and to remind them to stay off the Boardwalk. Hanson will make a post on the Community Club Facebook page reminding snowmobilers to stay off the Boardwalk.**

Engraving: Done!! The bricks and Jon Glawe benches have been engraved.

Platform: It has been constructed to allow access for the Wiebye property.

7. Boardwalk Maintenance: DuFrane contacted the builder. They will install grade eight bolts in the pipes. **DuFrane will ask how long is the warranty for the boardwalk.**

8. Budget: \$16,000 over budget.

Comments: Can we fundraise? Is that our job?

Can we run a donation campaign for the parks? **Albright will check with Barnesville about how they conduct their Community Fund Drive.** We could make use of the West Central Initiative link on the City website for donations like the Veterans Memorial and the Pickleball Court are doing. We can get mailing labels from the county. The City has a folding machine. We might also post a donation campaign on the Community Club Facebook page. We could ask the City to add a separate Parks & Rec link on the website.

9. Parks & Rec Board Members: Albright will address the discrepancy in ordinances at the next Council meeting and ask that membership residency requirements be changed. We would like to add Tony Sailer as a voting member.

10. Trail Fence: DuFrane will get an estimate for the 2-rail fence from Dakota Fence. Approximately 450 feet is needed.

11. Speed Limit: Albright sees a need to continue to pursue a request to change the speed limit to 30 mph on Co. Hwy. #4 and #60 along the Trail. Several residents plus Julie Lammers and Julie Bruhn have worked toward this goal for many years. Two steel posts were sheared off this summer. One, a mailbox post on the Wiebye property and the second on park property near the retaining wall.

12. Albright will call Matthew Kirkwood, NDSU Landscape Architecture Department, to find out if his students can work with us to “redesign” the Long Lake Park. He has expressed an interest in the project and requested \$1000 payment to cover supplies and travel. Issues to address are drainage, safety, parking, and a new bathroom/bath house. Wishes include a splash pad.

Other discussion items included:

Christmas Streetlights will be up for Smalltown Business Saturday, November 27.

Two composite benches were found in City storage. One with Ron and Barb Goodman’s name, the other with no name. **DuFrane will do a “Bench Inventory” so we can decide where to put the two extra benches.**

The next meeting will be Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. in the Vergas Event Center.