

**11.17.2022 DRAFT Minutes for Vergas Parks & Rec Advisory Board Meeting, 5:00 p.m., Vergas Event Center, submitted by Carol J. S. Albright**

1. **Members Present:** Sherri Hanson, Steph Hogan, Sydney Dahlgren, Carol Albright, Tony Sailer, Paul Pinke, Mike DeFrane
2. **Others Present:** Judy Kvam, Jeff Kuhn from Widseth Engineering via ZOOM, Julie Lammers
3. **September Minutes were approved** with a motion by Hogan/second by Pinke.
4. **Additions/Corrections to Agenda:** Add SWCD Proposal for Erosion Control. Move Widseth Proposal and Budget to the beginning of the Agenda so Julie Lammers can leave.
5. **Widseth Proposal Approved:** The proposal includes a site visit, meeting with OtterTail County, concept sketches, two meetings with Parks Board, and a final masterplan for Long Lake Park renovation. The cost is not to exceed \$6830 and will be charged at an hourly rate. **Motion by Sailer/second by Hogan to recommend the Council approve the Widseth Proposal; passed.**
6. **Budget:** Payment for the Widseth Proposal can come out of the current budget or possibly from American Rescue Plan Funds. **Motion by Sailer/second by Hanson to ask Council to use American Rescue Plan Funds to pay for the Widseth Proposal and for the Trail Fence; approved.** The current budget shows \$2300 Looney Days, \$1700 Keilley Shores, and \$2500 Engineering Funds which could be used to pay Widseth, though saving that money for Parks improvements would also make sense. **A motion by Hogan/second by Pinke was approved to transfer \$5500 from the Budget to the Parks Money Market.**
7. **Fence Quotes** for replacing the fence along the Trail were discussed. Hanson had three quotes from Eastman Fence & Sons LLC. She had sent those quotes to the Board in October. DuFrane noted the vinyl fence makes more sense because of the 30 year Warranty. The \$2875 cost for removal seemed high for several members. **A motion by Hogan/second by Pinke recommending the Council purchase the vinyl fence for \$17,000 with removal of existing fence for \$2875 passed.** Hanson noted the price may have changed since the quote was made in October. Another quote from Dakota Fence and sent to DuFrane last year was approximately \$25,000.
8. **NDSU Meeting Review** notes were sent to each Board member. No action required because Widseth Engineers have already heard our preferences from the NDSU plans.
9. **City Council Updates from last month: The Council voted that Hager has to remove the maple trees he planted on City property next to the retaining wall and the trees he planted on the Trail Easement.**
10. **Park Inspection Notes** were sent to Board members. Additions include:
  - a. Handicap Accessibility to the Beach
  - b. Remove Garbage from water along Boardwalk on a more regular basis
  - c. Restore the Riparian System along the shoreline
  - d. Signs for each park

**Ball Park Usage** was discussed. Sailer reported he talked to Nick Courneya from Frazee Schools. They have not had to pay to use the baseball diamond and plan to use it this Spring for JV. They would also like to use the locked shed for supplies. There has been no contact with the City regarding who uses the ball diamond. **Hanson made a motion/ Second by Pinke recommending the Council assign a City liason for ball diamond scheduling and to prepare a written agreement for groups who use the diamond. Motion passed.** Sailer volunteered to get a copy of Brainerd's ball diamond use agreement so we don't have to reinvent the wheel.
11. **Donated Lot Ideas: Tabled until the City finds out what the State has planned.**
12. **DuFrane Update: nothing right now.**
13. **Naming the Long Lake Park: we need to check records for any existing name. There**

is one rock structure at the beach with “Long Lake Park” engraved.

14. **Receptacle for Fish Guts:** We are not in favor of that because of the smell.
15. **Kiosks:** Hanson still hopes to have information kiosks along the Boardwalk. Tabled.
16. **LakeHound Dock Removal:** Albright presented a proposal from LakeHound, \$1280, per year to install and remove the boat dock, swimming dock, buoys, and rope with buoys. The Board reached a consensus that City workers should continue doing the job and get volunteers to help with the buoys. DuFrane works with the DNR to move the Pier every year.
17. **SWCD Erosion Control Plan: approval was recommended to the Council in a motion by Albright/second by Hogan; passed.** The plan will address the erosion at the Tin Can Alley end of the Boardwalk. The cost to the City will be about \$250 plus about 10 hours volunteer time. Total estimated cost is \$1010.
18. **Other: Silver Loon Fundraiser!** Sailer will find out costs for producing the silver loon statue he got from a Widseth contact.
19. **Next meeting will be Thursday, December 22, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the Event Center.**