

## MINUTES

### VERGAS PARKS & REC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Vergas Event Center 1/26/2023 at 5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherri Hanson, Tony Sailer, Steph Hogan, Matt Engebretson (city), Dean Haarstick (council)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carol Albright and Sydney Glawe

OTHERS PRESENT: Chuck Hanson and Mike Dufrane

Chuck Hanson was introduced to the board by Sherri.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES: Steph made the motion to approve the minutes, Tony seconded the motion, and the board voted and motion passed.

BUDGET: Unavailable.

PICNIC TABLES: Tony has received plans for the construction of picnic tables that can be constructed for the city. Chuck has a building which is heated and large enough to construct the tables. (Chuck is retired and lives on Lake Sybil.) Tony and Chuck have volunteered to oversee the construction and will work to also enlist other volunteers. The Community Club has offered the funds to buy materials for 5 new tables. Mike said the city could use 10 new tables, but Mike and Matt could also do repair work on some of the old tables in the city shop. The estimated cost for supplies for a new table is \$150 For treated wood. Untreated wood would be less but would require painting. Unpainted wood probably best for tables for surfaces where there is food. Lumber would need to be painted before construction, allowed to dry, and then constructed. Chuck would open his shop and the painting could be done there. Chuck would pick up the materials and after construction they can be stored at the city shop and can be stored outside. Sherri will ask for additional funds from the Community club for the additional tables and repairs or if funds are not available 5 tables this year and 5 next year. We will ask for volunteers for the building and painting of the tables, put out dates for the project and come up with a plan. We will paint the tables park green and we can purchase the paint from the Vergas Hardware.

WEST CENTRAL INITIATIVE APPLE TREES: The West Central Initiative has offered to give us 2 Apple trees. They could be purchased at Crossroads in Vergas or West Central Initiative would buy them for us. The thought was that we could plant them up at Tin Can Alley. Mike wondered about the other trees that need planting. We have discussed the removal and replanting of the Hager trees on the trail as well. Wondered about maybe some lilacs along the roadway as well as the 4-7 maple trees.

FACILITY AGREEMENT: Tony has written a facility agreement for the use of the ball fields by Frazee School for games and practices. In the past this has not been done but is needed. The agreement requires that Frazee have their own insurance and notify the city office of their schedule. Frazee is also required to let city know of any problems they have with the field, do their own pregame field prep, and dispose of their trash after they have used the field. There should not be alcohol consumption at the games since it is being used for school event. It was recommended this agreement be sent on to the council for approval. Steph made the motion to send agreement to council, Tony seconded.

ICE RINK: There is an ice rink cleaned at the lake. This is not the ideal place. There is a company called EZicerinks.com, that makes rink frames which board members should look at. This company makes plastic frames that can be customized. We might look at something 120 feet x 80 feet. Pelican Rapids had a similar set up for a rink. Problem for us would be where to put it. Suggestions were the state land, parking lot down by the beach, up by the pickle ball courts, in front of Hanson's, or if Troy would give permission the insulation plant parking lot. Board members need to look for spots and bring back next meeting.

LOONS: The board discussed the loon statues as a money making protect. The standing loons are molded and can be purchased \$4.49 each for 100. We are ordering 100. We would be responsible for their painting. We could sell the loons for at least \$10 but probably \$15 each. Maybe do a paint the loon wine and cheese event. We might also do a paint the loon contest. We could include a kids paint the loon activity.

COUNCIL APPROVED: The council has approved accepting the bid from Eastman Fence & Sons Inc for \$10,000 to replace fence along the trail. Mike and Matt will remove the old fence so need to coordinate with Eastman Fence and Sons for the safe replacement.

\$6,830 was also approved for Widseth Engineers plans to develop the park on Long Lake. The cost of those projects will come out of the park Board budget.

MIKE UPDATES: Mike and Matt have cleared a rink on Long Lake for a rink. Mike was waiting to clear again till after forecast snow, we explored ideas for use of the rink. Maybe a day of play including curling, squash and broom ball tournament. Steph is going look into possible broom ball tournament for kids.

There was discussion about the porta potties. Mike said the Porta potties down at the park would require cleaning once a week. The bath house has just been declared a disgusting alternative.

WATER SKING: North Star Water Ski, group that performed at Looney Days contacted Sherri and would like to practice on Long Lake this summer. Practices would be on Tuesday and Friday and once a month they would do a Friday show. They would need to put in their own dock and lifts down by the pavilion. The team would need to do cleanup, they would ask for help in hauling away brush. They have their own insurance. The team had given funds from their shows back to the city last year Looney Days. Tony made a motion to approve a recommendation to council for a one-year trial and Steph seconded. Motion carried.

CHANGE OF MEETING TIME: We had changed the meeting time from 3:00 to 5:00 when Sydney joined the board to make meetings work with her schedule. Sydney is seldom able to make our meetings and so the board decided unanimously to go back to the 3:00 PM meeting time the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. Sherri will talk with Sydney about her future plans.

SWIM LESSONS: Board asked if we wanted to combine with Frazee again this summer for swim lessons. That worked well last summer so we do want to work with Frazee although there is no grant so there will be a fee. We will take this to the City Council.

MOTION MADE TO ADJOURN : Sherri made the motion to adjourn, and Tony seconded the motion. Board voted and passed.

NEXT MEETING February 23

Minutes recorded by Steph Hogan

ITEMS NEEDING COUNCIL APPROVAL:

Facility Agreement

Water Ski Group practice on Long Lake and install dock and lifts

Swim Lesson program with Frazee

NEED TO TAKE TO COUNCIL

Baseball Field Agreement (Facility Agreement)