

5.25.2023 Minutes DRAFT Vergas Parks & Rec Advisory Board

The meeting was held from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Vergas Event Center.

1. Members Present: Carol Albright, Sherri Hanson, Maggie Puetz, Steph Hogan, Dean Haarstick, Matt Engebretson. Absent: Tony Sailer
2. No other citizens present.
3. Additions to Agenda:
 1. Planters at Long Lake Beach
 2. Erosion Plan at Tin Can Alley/EOTSWCD
 3. Apple Trees
4. April Minutes Approved with a motion by Hogan and a second by Hanson.
5. Trail Fence: June 6 is the tentative date for removal and replacement. City will provide truck, chainsaw, and tractor. No volunteers needed. **Hanson will send contact info to Engebretson.**
6. Water Ski Team has not started practice yet. They will be clearing sumac and stumpage with shoots soon, according to an email received by Hanson from Lyn Peterson.
7. Widseth Plans for Long Lake Park: **Hanson will check with Julie Lammers about the next step.** Jillian Reiner from Widseth had said she would send a summary of our last month's meeting to Lammers and then work on combining the two initial drawings into one. Hanson has not heard from Reiner or Lammers.
Hogan will be at a meeting where Reiner will be present. **Hogan will ask when the Parks Board can expect the next set of drawings.**
8. Loon Event: Albright reported the Arts Club will help with the Parks Board Fundraiser. They suggested giving each business a blank loon to decorate. It could then be added to a basket with perhaps a gift card for a silent auction at the event. "Loon Art for the Park" was suggested as a name for the event by Engebretson. Monday, August 7 was chosen as the date, from 5 to 7 at the Event Center. \$30 ticket will be available before the event and at the door. Preliminary park renovation plans will be revealed. A light meal and a free drink will be included with the ticket price. Those attending may also purchase their own blank loon and paint it that evening or take it home to paint.
 - a. **cAlbright will distribute loons to businesses who want to decorate one. Hanson will send her the Community Club Mailing List.**
 - b. **Puetz and Haarstick will bring food ideas and costs to the June meeting.**
 - c. **Hanson will contact Tammy Kinsalla to make tickets and a poster; and contact Spanky's to provide the bar. We will plan for 150 people.**
 - d. **Hogan will help distribute posters and help set up; also, contact people to help set up.**
9. Matt's Update:
 - a. BB Hoop was rejected by Council because it was not the right kind (not safe).
 - b. Ash Cans have been purchased for grills. They will be chained to the grill.
 - c. New toilets have been installed at the baseball field bathrooms.
 - d. Planning to nail down the loose boards on the Boardwalk.
 - e. Trees have been trimmed by the bench in Tin Can.
 - f. Buoys will be installed soon at the beach.
 - g. Apple Trees were planted by Haarstick in Tin Can Alley.
 - h. **Engebretson will contact Albright about the location of the erosion control project in Tin Can. City's work must be done prior to June 12.**
 - i. Sand piles will be spread out at the beach.
 - j. Dennis Pausch has started weeding the garden by the bath house. **Hogan and Puetz volunteered to help keep it clean. They will also maintain the plantings around the loon and help rake the beach. They will locate the list of volunteers to assist.**

10. City Council Action in May
 - a. No word from the Lions about the picnic tables they planned to order.
 - b. The Lions will be donating a new flag pole to be placed near the loon. **Haarstick will help Engebretson remove the old flag for Memorial Day Weekend. Engebretson contact Julie Lammers about the new flag pole.** She and Kyle Thiesen were named last month to coordinate the project.
 - c. Dennis Pausch signed an agreement to help maintain the bath house at Long Lake Park this summer. The agreement states he will not spend more than \$300 for paint.
 - d. Albright expressed disappointment that the Council did not reprimand Robert Hager for planting maple trees on City property and on the Trail Easement without permission and not replanting some of them in Tin Can. Hanson and Haarstick expressed disappointment in the forty-five minute discussion at the Council meeting in regard to the issue. Hanson then dismissed the issue because it was not on our agenda.
11. Budget: Hanson suggested the Board should not have to do any budget planning because we are merely an advisory board. There was no opposition expressed.
12. The next Parks & Rec Board meeting will be Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. in the Vergas Event Center.

Items to be Approved by City Council:

1. **Loon Art for the Park, Monday, August 7, 2023 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Event Center. Fundraiser and reveal of plans for the Long Lake Park Renovation.**
2. **Budget Planning for Parks & Rec Advisory Board**

Follow-Up Action:

1. **Hanson will send contact info for Mark Eastman to Engebretson for the Trail fence.**
2. **Hanson will contact Lammers about the next step with Widseth park plans.**
3. **Hogan will ask Reiner when we can expect the next set of park plan drawings.**
4. **Loon Art for the Park:**
 - a. **Albright will distribute loons to businesses who want to decorate one. Hanson will send her the Community Club Mailing List.**
 - b. **Puetz and Haarstick will bring food ideas and costs to the June meeting.**
 - c. **Hanson will contact Tammy Kinsalla to make tickets and a poster; and contact Spanky's to provide the bar. We will plan for 150 people.**
 - d. **Hogan will help distribute posters and help set up; also, contact people to help set up.**
5. **Engebretson will contact Albright about the location of the erosion control project in Tin Can. City's work must be done prior to June 12.**
6. **Park Gardens: next to bath house and surrounding the loon. Hogan and Puetz volunteered to help keep them clean. They will also maintain the plantings around the loon and help rake the beach. They will locate the list of volunteers to assist.**
7. **Haarstick will help Engebretson remove the old flag at Long Lake Park for Memorial Day Weekend. Engebretson will contact Lammers about the new flag pole. She and Kyle Thiesen were named last month to coordinate the project.**

