

PARK DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012

AGENDA

ROLL CALL

The Board of Park Commissioners met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2012, in the Park District Board meeting room at 5:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Barta, Panzer, Skarperud, and Soeby. Not present was Commissioner LaDouceur.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 7, 2012

A motion was made by Commissioner Soeby to approve the minutes from the August 7, 2012 Board meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

None.

DELEGATES TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

1. NEIGHBORHOOD BEHIND 46TH AVENUE SOUTH

Sharon Roche addressed the Board on behalf of neighbors present and not present on their concerns about the possibility of a future ice arena being built next to Choice Health & Fitness. None of the people in the neighborhood knew about this project. Sharon Roche spoke with Ryan Brooks from City Hall who steered her to the Park District.

The Board listened to their questions and concerns. Sharon Roche stated that they are 100% for the project, but they are concerned with the height of the building; they do not want to look out at a wall. The group suggested moving it to the north side of Choice Health & Fitness, or by moving it a little to the south and the west to get it away from the neighborhood so they won't have to look at a large building.

Superintendent Bill Palmiscno stated that the architect has been contacted and asked to slide the building a little to help with the problem. Commissioner Panzer stated that we should hold some informational meetings with the neighborhood. Palmiscno also stated that the neighborhood is more than welcome to have a person sit on the planning committee.

FOR DISCUSSION

NV360 COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

Barry Wilfahrt, Team Lead, Chamber of Commerce, GF & EGF and Kristi Mishler, Team Lead, Community Foundation of GF, EGF & Region were present to inform the Board of a community-wide conversation tool being launched on September 24th. The Chamber is partnering with the City on the project. They have received grants from the Knight Foundation and the Bremer Foundation for the project.

Phase one has been completed. Information gathering included 15 conversations with nearly 400 participants that provided baseline information on strengths, weaknesses, opportunities – including natural opportunities and big ideas. Information was documented and provided the framework for a community-wide conversation.

Phase two is the September 24th launch itself. Results are scheduled to be released November 20, 2012 at the Community Foundation annual meeting.

Phase three is the community action plan that will be developed from the information gathered. Results are scheduled to be presented at the Chamber of Commerce annual meeting on January 9, 2013.

What they are asking from the Board and the Park District is a list of questions for the community. These questions can cover current and future concerns and topics of interest. Commissioner Soeby stated that she has had members of other communities ask her about how our 8% Land Ordinance was started.

John Staley stated this provides good interaction with the public and that questions would be gathered from both the Board and Park District Staff for the project within the next two weeks.

ALTRU VILLAGE SIGNAGE

Leah Hummel from Altru presented the Board with the Altru Wellness Village Signage Site Plan. Sign type A1 "Primary Site Monument Sign" has already been approved through Planning & Zoning. Sign Type A2 "Secondary Corner Site Monument Sign" still needs to be approved. Altru is paying for signage and plans have been presented to Planning and Zoning, with a follow-up scheduled for the variance on sign type A2.

The Board felt that everything looked good and they thanked Leah Hummel for the information.

FOR ACTION

RRVG AGREEMENTS

Superintendent George Hellyer stated that the final cost from splitting utilities has not been calculated yet since invoices have not been received, but the process of the split has been started. General Manager Cam Tweten added that RRVG still needs to move the gas pipe to their side of the building along with getting their meter set up. Tweten will make sure that everything is done by the October 5th closing date.

Hellyer presented the Board with the three agreements to be approved. These agreements included the Building Purchase Agreement, Ground Lease Agreement, which states the lease of the land to RRVG for \$25 per year, with RRVG covering all taxes, maintenance, and insurance, and the Party Wall Easement & Maintenance Agreement.

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud to approve all three agreements with Red River Valley Gymnastics as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

PRELIMINARY 2013 BUDGET

Superintendent George Hellyer summarized the preliminary 2013 budget for the Board. There has been an addition of \$500,000 added under Capital & Betterment for flooring at Eagles Arena. Hellyer also included options for budget carryover deficits, along with, calculations for no mill increase, ¾ mill increase, and 1 mill increase.

A discussion took place on the pension funds and the possibility of a 1 mill increase to help get caught up. Pension Fund is currently 69% funded. With a 1 mill increase, ¾ could go towards special assessments and ¼ toward the pension fund.

Commissioner Panzer stated that a "no mill increase" is not an option. Director John Staley added that the public appreciates long term planning and we only raise the mill when needed and lower it when possible.

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud to approve the 2013 preliminary budget with a 1 mill increase, which will increase it to 40.98 mill. Seconded by Commissioner Soeby; motion carried.

BANK ACCOUNTS

Superintendent George Hellyer stated that the Park District currently has a depository account with Bremer Bank for Center Court Fitness Club and two Alerus Financial bank accounts for payroll and vendor checks for the entire Grand Forks Park District. Per our agreement with Choice Financial for Choice Health & Fitness, our depository and operating banking is to be with Choice Financial for Choice Health & Fitness.

Hellyer is seeking authorization to open a Choice Financial bank account for Choice Health & Fitness immediately for deposits. He will be seeking authorization, at a later date, for a second Choice Financial bank account as soon as all activity can be coordinated for payroll and vendor checks.

A motion was made by Commissioner Soeby to approve the opening of a bank account with Choice Financial as requested. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

All reports were accepted as presented.

BILLS TO BE APPROVED FOR AUGUST 2012

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud as per Commissioner LaDouceur to approve the bills for August in the amount of \$914,398.10 for the Park District. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

All reports were accepted as presented.

Superintendent Bill Palmiscno reported that hockey registration is now done online. Rec Guides are due out this week, Sunflake Soccer will start on September 10th and Gambucci Arena is scheduled to open on September 17th. Park Maintenance has completed repairs on hockey boards. Kraft Field turf has been repaired, and we have received the Kiwanis playground equipment.

Superintendent George Hellyer stated that there is still the Crossover Easement Agreement with Red River Valley Gymnastics to be completed. No Board approval needed.

General Manager Cam Tweten reported on the activities schedule for the fitness facilities. Center Court Fitness Club will close September 20th, with the official opening of Choice Health & Fitness on September 25th. Choice Health & Fitness Sneak Peak Week begins on September 17th with the Grand Opening scheduled for September 24th. Altru Harvest Gala is scheduled for September 22nd. East Region Tennis Tournament and Wild Hog ½ Marathon are scheduled for the first week at the new facility. Tweten also stated that they have received some good vendor bids for maintenance cleaning products and equipment for Choice H&F.

King's Walk Golf report showed 4,408 rounds of golf for August 2012. It also showed 343 memberships sold to date. Lincoln Golf report showed 3,654 rounds of golf for August 2012.

Forestry reported 112 request calls answered, along with 1,073 trees pruned, 75 non DED removals, 16 DED removals, and 66 stumps removed, with 18 days spent on scouting for DED.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Director John Staley announced that we have received a \$500,000 gift from the Engelstad Foundation for the ice arena project, but only if that amount is matched through donations by June 2013. Staley stated that we are very honored to receive such a generous gift.

Commissioner Soeby stated that the NDSU Extension 4-H Club might help fund a suspension bridge for kids over the water at Choice H&F. She also stated that NDSU Extension would like to get more involved in projects both with the Park District and Choice H&F.

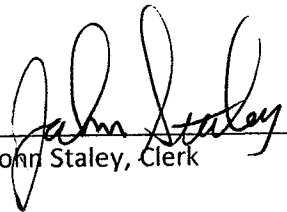
General Manager Cam Tweten stated that the USDA & NRCS are interested in putting a green house near Choice H&F, but we first need to confirm a location before they can continue with the project. Cam Tweten also stated that a drawing of the Donor Wall artwork is available if anyone would like to see it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.



John Staley, Clerk



Jay Panzer, President