

PARK DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MAY 8, 2012

AGENDA

ROLL CALL

The Board of Park Commissioners met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday May 8, 2012, in the Park District Board meeting room at 5:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Bollman, Panzer, LaDouceur, Skarperud and Soeby.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – XCEL ENERGY

Judy Paukert from Xcel Energy presented the Board with a check for \$15,000 for the "Rain Gardens" at the new Choice Health & Fitness facility.

Director John Staley stated that because of the rain garden addition at the Choice Health & Fitness facility, a pipe that would have cost the Park District an additional half-million dollars is not required. Rain gardens are special plantings around parking lots to help filter out pollutants and increase absorption into the ground so less water has to go into the holding pond, which in our case is the river.

General Manger Cam Tweten accepted the gift from Xcel with very much appreciation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 3, 2012

A motion was made by Commissioner Soeby to approve the minutes from the April 3, 2012 Board meeting. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

None.

DELEGATES TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

None.

FOR DISCUSSION

KING'S WALK PROPERTY LINES – MICKEY SYRQUIN

Mickey Syrquin was present, along with a representative from his attorney, Ronald Galstad's office. The Park District's attorney, Dick Olson, was also present.

A discussion took place on the request for Dr. Syrquin to relocate the fence that he had installed, which is on the Park District property located at King's Walk Golf Course. The property had been surveyed using the old land marks that were out there. It has since been resurveyed to show the fence to be 10 feet onto Park District property. Photos were provided. A discussion took place to indicate where the fence is to be relocated to. Dr. Syrquin's representative stated that the fence is a black raut iron fence that will allow access for ball retrieval.

Dick Olson stated that Dr. Syrquin's pool and pool house are both located partially in the "ball retrieval zone". This could hinder the access for ball retrieval. Olson had written a letter, July 28, 2009 to Branden

Bartholomew, from the City of Grand Forks, which stated that the pool or pool house could not be located within the 10' ball retrieval zone. They would need to be located within the 25' drainage easement.

Dr. Syrquin has agreed to relocate the fence off of Park District property. The Board agreed that it does not matter if the fence is on the inside or outside of the tree-line, as long as it is on Dr. Syrquin's property. Dr. Syrquin stated that he will make sure there is a cushion between the fence and property line.

A formal agreement with the pool and pool house variance included will be completed by Dick Olson.

MEASURE 2 IMPACTS

Director John Staley addressed the Board on the impact that Measure 2 would have on the Park District. It is very uncertain how this could affect the Park District. If this measure passes, property taxes, poll taxes and acreage taxes will be eliminated, effective January 1, 2012. Measure 2 states that legally imposed obligations will be reimbursed for the lost revenues from property taxes. Park districts are not listed as a "legally imposed obligations" on page 2 of the measure. We are 36% funded by property taxes.

Superintendent George Hellyer stated that in looking over the measure, it is unclear which tax year would be chosen to replace revenue, how the legislative assembly would devise the formula to use, and how bonds that have already been taken out would be repaid. There are a lot of questions raised in how this measure reads. It does state that it would be retroactive to 1/1/12

Attorney Dick Olson stated that it could be a disaster. There are a number of questions to be answered by the Supreme Court. The measure shows that debit limits will be done according to market value.

SKATEBOARD PARK CASE STATEMENT PROPOSAL

Superintendent Bill Palmiscno provided a case statement draft for the Five-O Skatepark Alliance project. A \$2,000 budget has been provided to get the plans drawn up. A case statement is needed for funding. The group will be working with Gary Harris, Jr., Development Officer, from the Park District. They are looking for approval of the case statement so they can proceed with the next step.

Several skateboard committee members were present, along with, Officer Roger Pohlman from the Grand Forks Police Department. Officer Pohlman stated that the Police Department supports the park but needs to get the parking lot repaired for the use of its employees.

Commissioner Soeby added that the health benefits provided by this physically good sport makes this is a really positive project. This could be a boost to our economic and our downtown development.

The Park District leases the area of the skate park from Urban Development. The project would be asking to expand this space to hold more people because of the growing interest in this sport.

There was a question on the safety of this sport. The improved designs of the parks make them much safer for their users and statistics show that a very small percentage of injuries are reported.

President Jim Bollman said to go ahead with the next step in process.

FOR ACTION

PARKING LOT PLANS

Superintendent Bill Palmiscno requested permission to bid the parking lot project. Construction costs are estimated at \$644,072.60 for these improvements.

Each assessment project will need construction plans, specifications and estimates approved along with authorization to advertise for bids.

A motion was made by Commissioner Soeby to approve the construction plans, specifications and estimates as presented and authorize the solicitation of bids for the construction costs and improvement costs for the parking lot project. Seconded by Commissioner Panzer; motion carried.

HOCKEY ACADEMY AGREEMENT

Superintendent Bill Palmiscno presented the Board with a "letter of intent" for the Hockey Academy Agreement. He is asking for permission to sign the "letter of intent".

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur to approve the "letter of intent" for the Hockey Academy Agreement giving Bill Palmiscno permission to sign the document. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

All reports were accepted as presented.

BILLS TO BE APPROVED FOR APRIL 2012

A motion was made by Commissioner Panzer to approve the bills for April in the amount of \$904,381.15 for the Park District. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

All reports were accepted as presented.

Superintendent Bill Palmiscno reported that both spray parks will be open by this weekend. Eagles arena is up and running for the summer season. Spring Fest cleanup went really well. He also provided a list of upcoming events. Park Maintenance has started their summer maintenance schedule, along with the repair of playground equipment and the rebuild of Optimist and Cox baseball fields.

Superintendent George Hellyer reported that the two lots just north of Choice Health & Fitness were rebid and no bids were received. The minimum was set at \$245,000.

General Manager Cam Tweten reported 33 memberships sold for Center Court Fitness Club and 45 memberships canceled in April. Another Hard Hat Tour of Choice Health & Fitness will be held this Friday, May 11th at 5:00 & 6:00. Over 60 applications turned in for the three new positions at Choice Health & Fitness. Choice Health & Fitness furniture bid comparisons are being done. He also updated the Board on the programming schedule for the summer.

King's Walk Golf report showed 2,990 rounds of golf for April 2012 compared to 1,401 for April 2011. It also showed 307 memberships sold to date.

Lincoln Golf report showed 2,300 rounds of golf for April 2012 compared to 183 for April 2011.

Forestry reported 68 request calls answered, along with 262 trees pruned, 28 non DED removals, 132 stumps removed, 112 trees planted and 4 days spent on watering. The Arbor Day event will take place on May 10th at 10:00 a.m. @ Riverside Boat Landing.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Director John Staley stated that no decision has been made yet on the Center Court Fitness Club and Red River Valley Gymnastics split. An answer is needed from the Gymnastics Club. Commissioner Skarperud suggested setting a deadline for their answer. Attorney Dick Olson stated that he agrees with Commissioner Skarperud that this needs to be done to not damage sale of Center Court Fitness Club. The split needs to be done by September 2012.

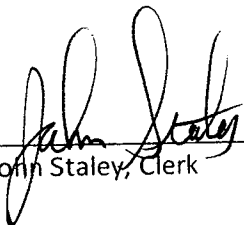
Commissioner Panzer stated that he had been contacted by nearby residents on the spray park at University Park and the use of alcohol around the spray park. Superintendent Palmiscno will talk to the Police Department to have them keep an eye on that area. A suggestion was also made to have signage by the tennis court parking lot for spray park users.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

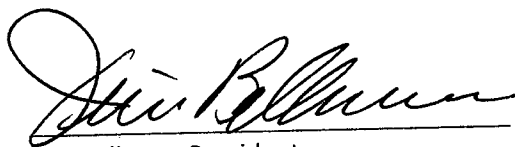
None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Panzer to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.



John Staley, Clerk



Jim Bollman, President