

Dallas Center Parks and Recreation Board Minutes
April 7, 2020 7:00 PM – Via Conference call from 1105 Maple St., Dallas Center

This meeting is being held by electronic means due to heightened public health risks, as allowed by Iowa law and as detailed in the Agenda posted on the City's website.

Board Attendance: Amy Jarnagin, Bob King, Ken Matteson, Mark Mernone, Dan Oberender, and Mary Werch

Absent: Susan Collins

Guests: Ryan Coon, Abby Weddle, and Gary Licht

- 1) Mary called meeting to order at 7:05

Bob was appointed the temporary secretary.

- 2) Approval of agenda: Ken moved to approve, Mark seconded, passed 6-0
- 3) Approve minutes of the March 3, 2020 meeting: Bob moved, Amy seconded, passed 6-0
- 4) Public communications:
Discussion:
 - a) Mary noted that the Governor's directives closed the play areas of the public parks, and the earlier published agenda on this item was removed.
 - b) Bob explained the plan to prepare an AARP grant to fund approximately 50% of the walking path pavement linking the parking lot to all ball fields in the Burnett Complex and erecting an 18' x 18' by 10' high over a concrete base north of the concession stand. This grant will be submitted to the P&R Board for final approval during the May meeting and thereafter to the City Council.
 - c) Bob explained the plan to prepare a Wellmark Matching Assets to Community Health (MATCH) grant for up to \$25,000 provided that the project can be completed in one year. The grant is due June 5 and is scheduled to be awarded in August. Our planned accessible playground looks like an excellent match for this grant.
 - d) Mary explained that they were currently planting trees in Heritage Park.
- 5) Discussion and possible action on donation by Brenton Arboretum of 3 Kentucky Coffee trees.
Discussion revealed that these were approximately 9-foot tall trees and would be placed along the walking trail to replace trees that had to be removed. Ken moved and Mark **seconded that we accept the trees with thanks to the Arboretum.**
Passed 6-0
- 6) Discussion and possible action on 2020 swimming pool daily admission charges

Discussion centered around the possibility of a curtailed swimming season and the rates charged at other pools. Bob moved and Ken seconded **to change our daily admission charge to \$4.00, with those under 2 years of age being admitted free.** Passed 6-0

- 7) Discussion and possible action on extending pre-season reduced rate pool passes sale.

Discussion centered around uncertainty of when the pool might be able to open. It was determined that the City planned to reimburse season passes if the season is substantially shortened. Bob moved and Dan seconded **to continue to sell the season passes at the discounted rate until two weeks after the Governor announced that the pool could now be opened.** Passed 6-0

- 8) Discussion and possible action on recommendation to City Council on animals on leash in parks added to Chapter 47 of city code.

During discussion, it became clear that the Board was unclear about the frequency and severity of complaints about the current rules. **We decided to ask city staff to provide a count and description of complaints before considering action next month.**

- 9) Recommendations to City Council on hiring Skate Rink operators for 2020 season
Discussion revealed that all four applicants appeared to be well qualified and that we've hired four Rink operators in the past. Ken moved and Bob seconded to **recommend hiring all four applicants at \$12.00 per hour starting May 1, with the four scheduling no more than 2 persons at a time to work the rink.**
Passed 6-0

- 10) Discussion and possible action on play equipment to order for accessible playground

After reviewing the accessible play equipment options presented by Mary, the **Board approved including the Concerto, Inclusive Whirl and the Accelerator Swing for the new playground. Bob was asked to prepare a proposal for the Council (attached). The major issue to be resolved by the council is whether the currently budgeted \$30,000 for this park could be transferred to the next fiscal year to allow us to seek the Wellmark grant to help pay for the playground.** Amy moved and Ken seconded. Passed 6-0

- 11) Plan and schedule presentation to City Council of comprehensive plan for Mound Park

After reviewing the proposed changes in Mound Park (see page 5 of the attached accessible playground proposal), the Board directed Bob and Mary to present this to the Council.

- 12) Adjourn