

**PARK BOARD
CITY OF WABASHA**

Minutes of the Wednesday, January 21, 2015 meeting:

BOARD MEMBERS: Mickey Nelson
Sue Gillespie
Larry Udstuen
Betsy Wharton
Dan Aitken
Sylvia Klas
Lynn Schoen

STAFF: Mike Mroz
Patty Heraty
Park Superintendent
Deputy Clerk

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at City Hall and was called to order by Mike Mroz at 4:30pm.

Roll call found members Nelson, Gillespie, Aitken, Wharton and Schoen present. Member Klas and Udstuen were absent.

Board Members Wharton and Aitken moved to approve the October 15, 2014 regular minutes as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Additions/Changes to the agenda – None.

Public Comments None

General Business

Item 5.1 – 2014 Year in Review

Board members were provided with a summary of the 2014 budget for the Parks Department and Pool. Board members discussed the information provided. No action was needed.

Item 5.2 – 2015 Goals

Board members were provided with a summary of projects for 2014 that have been completed and projects proposed for 2015 from the adopted park plan. Park Superintendent Mike Mroz is requesting a discussion to prioritize the items for 2015 and to discuss any items the board feels needs to be added.

Discussion included:

1. Adding a dog park
2. Relocating the Tennis Courts. Board members Schoen stated that there may be a grant that can help with this item, she will look into it further and report back to the board.
3. A splash pad at the pool. Mike stated that the cost for this item is about 60,000 and that at this time it is not possible without grants or donations.

Item 5.2 – Ash Tree Removal

Mike stated that with the current threat of EAB, the city has decided to take a proactive approach. The city is working on locating Ash Trees on city property and will enter the GPS locations into the cities mapping system, after this is completed they will begin removing the ash trees and replanting them with a different species. By doing this, the city hopes to ease the burden of losing trees throughout the community. Board members agreed that a proactive approach is necessary in this situation.

Item 5.4 – Comprehensive Plan Discussion

Mike stated that the city is currently in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan and the city administrator is looking for representatives from all Board and Commissions to help with the project. The city is putting together a committee of about 30 people from the community to help with the project. Board members Nelson and Aitken expressed interest, Mike stated that they should email the city administrator for more information.

Item 5.5 – Jaycee Park Origination Discussion

Blaine Marcou has sent a letter to the board requesting that city records reflect that Jaycee Park property was donated by his family. As it states now, the records indicate that the property was purchased by the city. Mr. Marcou had brought this item to the board in 2010 and was told that he needed to provide compelling written documentation and testimony from persons that were involved in the original transaction in order to change the official city record. Mr. Marcou has provided the city with letters from his family, John Wodele, and Virginia Fosmo as well as a copy of the deed registration. Board members discussed the information provided and after

all discussion, Board Members Nelson and Gillespie moved to recommend the city council amend the official city record to reflect that the Marcou family donated the property to the city and to change the name of the park to Marcou Park. Adopted with the following vote: Aye – Nelson, Gillespie, Wharton and Schoen. Nays – Aitken.

Electing a board president was discussed, it was decided to wait until a full board was present.

Board member Nelson brought forward for discussion the community garden, she is requesting that staff consider replacing the current sign with a larger one. Mike stated that he will take care of it in the spring.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 4:30 at City Hall.

Having no other business, members Hiers and Aitken moved to adjourn at 5:30 pm. Adopted unanimously.

Patty Heraty, Deputy Clerk