

**PARK BOARD
CITY OF WABASHA**

Minutes of the Wednesday, September 15, 2010, meeting:

BOARD MEMBERS: Nan Hiers (Chair) Mickie Nelson
 Jason Timm Sue Gillespie
 Jan Kasper Kevin Hemmingsen
 Dan Aitken

STAFF: Keith Hough Parks Superintendent
 Mike Mroz Staff
 Patty Heraty Administrative Assistant

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held on Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at the City Hall and was called to order by member Hiers 4:30 pm.

Roll call found all members present. Except member Nelson.

Board Members Aitken and Kasper moved to approve the August 18, 2010 regular minutes as submitted. Adopted unanimously.

Public Comments – None

General Business

Jaycee Park and a letter (attachment 'A") received from Blaine Marcou was brought forward for discussion. Board Chair, Nan Hiers stated that she had received a letter addressed to the board from Blaine Marcou in June but that she had decided not to bring it to the board until this meeting because city staff had recommended talking to the city attorney and obtaining more information prior to bringing the letter before the board. Mr. Marcou states in his letter that the description as to the origin of block 66 as adopted by the Park Board 10-21-09 is incorrect and states:

That the said parties of the first part, Everett & Marcella Marcou, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar and other good and valuable consideration to them in hand paid by said party of the second part, City of Wabasha, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged do hereby Grant Bargain Sell and Convey unto the said party of the second part, land described as follows:

All of Block Sixty-Six (66) in that part of the City of Wabasha known as South Wabasha, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of Register of Deeds in and for said county and state.

RESTRICTIVE COVENANT – The fore described property shall be used for park and recreation purposed only.

The City official minutes from the February 1, 1977 council meeting state:

“Moved by Koenig and Arnoldy that the City of Wabasha enter into a contract with Marcou Realty to purchase All of Block 66 in that part of the City known as South Wabasha at a cost of \$2,000.00, contract pursuant to the one attached. This area is to be used for a park, the money being donated to the City from the J.C.’s. Adopted unanimously.”

The City also has official record of payment of \$2,000.00 to the Marcou family for purchase of Park in So. Wabasha.

Staff informed the board that City Attorney Peter Ekstrand stated that all deeds have the statement “in consideration of the sum of One Dollar and other good and valuable consideration” on it no matter the sum of payment. So it does not represent the amount that was actually paid for the property. Board members discussed that a letter to Mr. Marcou from the city attorney explaining this would be beneficial.

Board member Gillespie brought forward for discussion renaming the park to Marcou Park. It was decided to table this issue until more information could be gathered.

Park Board Attendance was discussed. Board member Hiers encouraged all members to attend meetings.

Park Board Duties was discussed. Staff provided board members with city code 7B Creating a Park Board prior to the meeting. Board members discussed board powers and responsibilities.

Park Superintendent Keith Hough brought forward for discussion the warming house attendant. He stated that due to budget cuts, the city is not going to hire an attendant for the warming house. The warming house will be opened during the same times it was last season, however there will be no attendant on duty. The back room will be locked up so no one can enter and the skates that are available for use will be put out in the front area. Keith also stated that he has talked to the police department and they will be patrolling the warming house and locking it up at night. Keith also stated that the hockey program will be using the warming house and rink so they will be around several evenings.

Staff reported that a complaint had been received about the geese at Malone Park from a citizen that had rented one of the shelters. He stated that the geese had chased the children and come up to the tables where their food had been. Keith stated that they do cull the herd - usually in the fall but there is not much else that can be done.

Staff reported that Mr. Dick Balow is requesting a refund of \$25.00 for shelter rental at Malone Park. Mr. Balow reserved both shelters but called to report that he was only able to use one of the shelters because they were so far apart. Board members Timm and Aitken moved to deny the \$25.00 refund to Mr. Balow. Adopted with the following vote: Ayes: Hiers, Timm, Kasper, Aitken, and Hemmingsen. Nays: Gillespie.

Keith updated board members on the campground. He stated that the council had cancelled the project at the last council meeting.

Summer Rec was discussed. It was decided that the program needs to be re-vamped and to form a sub-committee of Jan Kasper and Jason Timm to discuss the program and talk to Mike Smith to get an article in the paper to get volunteers and parent involvement.

The next meeting is scheduled for, Wednesday, October 20, 2010.

Having no other business, board members Timm and Gillespie moved to adjourn at 5:50 pm. Adopted unanimously.

Patty Heraty, Administrative Assistant