



Norwalk Park and Recreation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, January 2, 2019
6:00 PM

Norwalk City Hall

Members present: Nancy Kuehl, Stephanie Riva (Council liaison), Ben Palen, Deb Jorgenson, Brett Cermak, Sarah Coburn and Nat Tagtow. **Members Absent:** Al Lammers, Jordan Bandy

Cermak called the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Approval of agenda: (January) Motion by Jorgenson, seconded by Tagtow, carried unanimously, agenda approved.

Approval of minutes: (December 5 & 13) Motion by Jorgenson, seconded by Coburn, carried unanimously, minutes approved.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

Elizabeth Holland Park – Nancy notified Commission that the preliminary plans will go before City Council on January 3rd which pushes the schedule ahead as we were hoping. Notice will go out to bidders January 9th. We will receive and open bids on January 31st. City Council will award the contract on February 7th. We also discussed the shared access road and parking lot options. Commission discussed concerns for safety if the parking lot stalls were along the road; they liked the angled parking idea and prefer an actual parking lot off the access road. They were also concerned with the availability of parking for park users if the business tenants used our parking as overflow. They were very adamant that we are not to delay the project because of the parking lot or unknown plans of the tenant to which we are sharing the access road with. We can do a change order if we need to change plans.

Warrior Park – park sign was installed January 2. Cargo net for challenge course has been received just needs to be installed.

City Park – Hildreth did some work on the shelter in December when weather was in 40's but concrete still needs to be poured.

Brochure Plan – we will send out a monthly newsletter with our new email communication system, GovDelivery.

CIP – Nancy reviewed. Robin will get back to Commission with the quote amount for trail lighting. Cermak mentioned that he would like to see our #1 priority for trail connection to be the Sports Complex.

Budget for 2019/20 – Nancy reviewed

New Business:

Trees Please! Grant – we applied for the grant again for 2019. It is a \$1,000 matching grant through Mid American Energy and will be used for trees at Elizabeth Holland Park.

Earth Day Trash Bash – work with City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation on this event. They will advertise and volunteers can sign up through their website. Projects will be here in Norwalk for example picking up trash in the parks, clean up ravine at Windflower, etc. I will see if Public Works would like to be part of the event and if they have any projects. I will approach schools, businesses and citizens in the community to see if they are interested in volunteering at this event. Date: Friday, April 19 usually begins around 1:30pm.

Spring/Summer Activities:

Archery – spring activity, maybe borrow school equipment.

Ultimate Frisbee, Adult golf lessons, Sand Volleyball tournament at the beach in Lakewood, Fishing Derby with help from DNR, Adult activities

Baseball Field use schedule – complaints about scheduling practice times last year. We have room for 23 teams to practice 2x/week. It was suggested that we communicate with everyone early letting them know there may be a situation where there will not be enough space for teams to get practice times and also explain how we do the scheduling for practice times.

Program Updates:

Preschool, Kindergarten, 5th and 6th grade basketball complete.

Soccer and aerobics registration starts this month.

Volleyball registration complete, games start this month.

Norwalk school is raising money to build a PE Center (Fieldhouse) in the location of the old football field. It will include basketball, wrestling, volleyball, weight room and will allow us to hold our own graduation ceremony.

Agenda topics for next meeting:

Baseball practice schedule update

Mayor presentation about his Recreation Facility Vision

Meeting adjournment: Motion by Coburn, seconded by Jorgenson, carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.