

## **Park Board Minutes March 2023**

### **March 22, 2023**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Wahpeton Park Board was held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 5:15 pm at the Community Center in Wahpeton, North Dakota.

Commissioners present; Brian Watson, Tyler Gripentrog, Roger Jensen, Deb Tobias.

Staff present: Brad Edwardson – Director of Parks and Recreation, Curt Holtz – Park Superintendent, Keith Blattenbauer – Recreation Director, Kathy Diekman – Zoo Director, Connie Metcalf – Park Board Clerk.

Meeting was called to order by Park Board President Brian Watson.

**Citizen's Request:** Joe Schreiner –Wahpeton Baseball Association.

Gave a check for \$21,604.63 to Wahpeton Park Board for reimbursement for JRF stadium project.

Balance will be paid \$3086.36 for next 7 years.

Talked about the lighting at JRF. Brad is getting specs from Dean Kipp.

Talked about a new Baseball bus, new fencing, airport field.

Baseball Association said they will help with any fundraising.

Steve Hockert mentioned him, and the boys will help with fields.

Talked about placement of the Vaderstad sign. Park wanted it high enough to get equipment in and out.

Watson said the Park Board needs to see the sign before they can approve it.

Baseball Association would like to dedicate a tree in memory of Braxton Hoffman by JRF.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

\*Motion by Gripentrog to approve the meeting minutes from February 15, 2023, seconded by Tobias. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Reports from Officers**

#### **Recreation Director:**

Coed and Women's Volleyball are coming to an end with a couple weeks left.

Men's Basketball will be done on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Summer Youth Registrations are available on Wahpeton Parks and Recreation website.

Youth track program is starting in April. Track meet is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Youth Volleyball is under way with Dom Richels coaching.

Hats are ready for the summer baseball season. All teams from Cal Ripkin to Babe Ruth will be wearing them.

Easter Egg Hunt in Breckenridge Middle School March 25<sup>th</sup>. Parks and Rec is one of the sponsors.

#### **Park Superintendent:**

Moving a lot of snow. Opened up the Kidder Area road.

Worked in shop organizing and painting shop annex area.

The heater for the pool has to be in before pool opens June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Need to call Matt at Schmitt's.

Curt will order new AEDs for the shelters, Pads and batteries also.

#### **Zoo Director:**

2023 is the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Chahinkapa Zoo!

Clean Up Day is April 22.

Many schools are registered for spring field trips to the zoo.

CZA tabled the pheasant building renovation until April meeting.

A First Responders workshop was hosted by zoo and park on March 14 10-noon.

Next workshop will be on site drills.

Class registration will open on May 1. On-line and in person.

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for Blue Goose Days!

**Director:**

Bell Banks accounts have been open. Received credit cards from them.

They will help with on-line banking.

Brad will transfer money quarterly from Park and Rec to Park Board.

\*Gripentrog motioned to approve Brad Edwardson and Connie Metcalf to make any changes to the American Federal Accounts, seconded by Tobias. MC 3-0.

Bobcat is here but cannot get it until end of month when Doug Hudson is back.

Wahpeton website may be obsolete in a year. May need to rebuild new website.

**Reports from Commissioners and Committees:**

**Recreation:** No Report.

**Head of the Red Youth:**

**Maintenance / Planning:**

Paul built new shelving units in the WCC garage. Organized the equipment room also.

Shop furnace cannot be repaired – looking for a replacement for next year.

Curt will go look at the OTP utility truck they are selling.

All the park workers are coming back for the seasonal work at park.

Sold the F-250 for \$1300.

**Personnel / Finance:**

Security access is getting close to completion. Digital Guru still needs to do more work. Watson would like to see financial evaluations of our recreation programs and park rentals. New QB will be easier to pull accurate data to make reports.

Board will be transferring those accounts over in the next month.

All accounts are being evaluated to maximize our financial position. Currently have a CD that needs to be

reinvested at higher interest rates and an investment account that has not been evaluated in many years.

Margo Rowland is working to update the Employee Handbook.

**Pool:** No Report.

\*Gripentrog motioned to approve the committee reports, seconded by Tobias. MC. 3-0.

**Scheduled Committee meetings:**

**Maintenance / Planning Committee** – Tuesday, April 11th, 2023, 12:00 PM – Park Shop.

**Personnel / Finance Committee** – Wednesday, April 12th, 2023, 12:00 PM – Community Center

**Recreation Committee** – Thursday, April 13th, 2023, 12:15 PM – Community Center.

**Commissioner's Requests:** None

**Financial Reports:**

Park Board Clerk's report:

Fund Balances (as of 2-28-2023)

Park Board: \$648,040.83 / Bank of the West Checking.

Park and Recreation Foundation: \$209,770.89 / Bank of the West Checking.

Three Rivers Arts Council: \$15,289.28 / Bremer Bank Checking.

\*Gripentrog motioned to approve financial reports and approve Park Board bills, seconded by Tobias.  
Motion carried 3-0.

**Unfinished / New Business:** (100% approval for vote consideration).

**Date of Next meeting:** Wednesday, April 19, 2023- 5:15 PM – Wahpeton Community Center.

**Adjournment.**

\*Gripentrog motioned to adjourn, seconded by Tobias. Motion carried 3-0.

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**Brian Watson, Park Board President**

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**Connie Metcalf, Park Board Clerk**