

Wahpeton Park Board Minutes

January 17, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Wahpeton Park Board was held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 5:15 pm at the Community Center in Wahpeton, North Dakota.

Commissioners present: Gripentrog, Jensen, Hatting, Tobias.

President Watson attended later

Staff present: Brad Edwardson - Director of Parks and Recreation, Cortney Mann - Recreation Director, Kathy Diekman, Zoo Director, Park Board Clerk – Connie Metcalf

Meeting was called to order by Park Board Vice- President Gripentrog.

Citizen's Request: None

Approval of Minutes:

*Tobias motioned to approve the December 20, 2023, minutes, seconded by Hatting. MC 4-0.

Reports from Officers

Director of Parks and Recreation:

Website designer has converted our website to a new format.

Set up website credit card transactions to run through Heartland and Bell Bank Park Board account.

Been verifying financials . 2023 Budget was accurate and want to make sure 2024 is the same.

SOND year end inventory and AMT assignments were submitted.

Still working on closing Band Shelter grant.

Homestead Development meeting Dec 19 went well. Park indicated they would like a neighborhood with playground , pickleball/basketball courts, and open

picnic Shelter and possibly a splash park.

Met with pickleball players about setting up a club to buy time in the gym. They are getting 100 hours /month for \$1,000.

Quote to install a divider curtain in WCC gym. Table until next meeting.

Discussion on the Red Door Art Gallery building transfer to Park Board possibly.

*Motion by Tobias to have a legal rep. look over papers, seconded by Hatting. MC. 4-0.

Gardens have been approved by Jeff Nelson to use his property for 2024.

We get charged \$25/hr. for St John's gym usage.

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Zoo Director:

Theme weekend events are planned at least 1/month for 2024 season.
0.3 cougar cubs were acquired from Wildlife Wildwood Park in Wisconsin.
Year end reports will be ready for next meeting.
Zoo Impact presentation is being prepared for the City Council.
Zoo hours for 2024 are being decided – 10-6 is preferred and will save expenses.
Optimal visitation is between 10am-5pm.
Giving Hearts Day is February 8th open for donations.
Please consider donating to the Zoo for your charity.
Tal's Superbowl Pick will happen on Feb 6 at 3pm.
April 13th Clean up Day at Zoo all day.
OPENING Day at Zoo, Saturday, April 27th.

Reports from Commissioners and Committees:

Maintenance / Planning:

Paul Nelson picked up mowers.
Secured a cash donation from Jim Sturdevant for Sturdevant Field restrooms.
Secured a donation for plumbing from Schmitt's Plumbing for the Sturdevant Field restrooms.
Keeble Shelter renovation is moving along again.
NDSCS Diesel Technology students have started working on overhauling the John Deere 1575.
Skating rink has been flooded and pond is cleared of snow.
Moving the one-way sign to west side of Keeble Shelter.
Received a quote for new double fridge in the WCC.
Quotes for utility trailer purchase.
Motion by Jensen to purchase Brad's trailer for \$3200, seconded by Watson. MC. 4-0.

Personnel / Finance:

Health Insurance premiums need to be evaluated.
Marlene Richels has reconciled 2023 Park Board books.
New website is operational.
Established gym usage fee. Averages out to \$10/hr for user groups.

Recreation:

Pickleball can register on-line for each month. It has been going well.
Discussed moving Booster BB tourney back to March.
Coed and WVB started winter session.
Baseball Benefit is March 30, 2024 at WCC.

*Tobias motioned to approve the committee reports, seconded by Jensen. MC. 4-0.

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Scheduled Committee meetings:

Maintenance / Planning Committee – Tuesday, February 13, 2024- 12 PM – Park Shop.

Personnel / Finance Committee – Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 12:00 PM – WCC.

Recreation Committee – Thursday, February 8, 2024, 12:00 PM – WCC.

Commissioner's Requests: None

Financial Reports:

Park Board Clerk's report:

Fund Balances as of 12/31/2023

Park Board: \$229,807.

Park and Recreation Foundation: \$287,660.

*Watson motioned to approve financial reports and approve Park Board bills, seconded by Tobias. MC 4-0.

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

Date of Next meeting: Wednesday, February 21, at 5:15 PM – Wahpeton Community Center.

Adjournment.

*Jensen motioned to adjourn, seconded by Tobias. MC. 4-0.

Brian Watson, Park Board President

Connie Metcalf, Park Board Clerk