

The West Fargo Park Board met at 5:30 P.M. o'clock on Wednesday, March 15, 2006 at West Fargo City Hall. Members present were: Sharon Odegaard, Gary Fugere, Denise Johnson, Kathy Scully and Ken Zetocha. The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharon Odegaard.

Commissioner Scully made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the order of the agenda with the deletion of Item #6 West River Addition and the addition of West Fargo Soccer to go after Item #2 (2A). All Board Members present voting aye, motion carried.

Commissioner Zetocha made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve Park Board minutes of the February 8, 2006 meeting as presented. All Board Members present voting aye, motion carried.

Commissioner Fugere made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Zetocha to approve the following items on Consent Agenda:

Approve Bills
Monthly Report

Commissioners Fugere, Johnson, Scully, Zetocha, and Odegaard voting aye, motion carried.

The West Fargo VFW Post #7564 presented the park board with a check in the amount of \$12,127.66 and \$400.00 (proceeds from their stag night pool fundraiser). Bill Tuft from the VFW also noted that they would contribute another \$20,000 in the next few weeks to the pool for a total of around \$32,500.

Rick Keller for the Community Center update was not present at the Park Board meeting.

Steve Johnson, President of the West Fargo Soccer Club, was next on the agenda. Steve informed the board they have a fundraising goal of \$400,000 to help with the soccer fields getting completed. Steve mentioned they would like to see the paving of the parking lot and the fields being fenced in once they are completed.

The Soccer Club's concern is raising \$200,000 by the time the grass needs to be in for this year (June). Steve is looking for dirt work help since it takes a year to complete. Steve and the Soccer Club are wondering if the Park District is willing to help out with \$100,000 of the cost.

Steve mentioned he has talked to many corporate sponsors regarding fundraising of the soccer complex. An issue the corporate sponsors have is with the lease agreement with the Red River Valley Fair. The sponsors do not want to donate money and then not have a soccer field after 2011. Steve ideally would like eight major sponsors for the fields.

Director Erbstoesser said she had planned on using up some cash in lieu to put towards soccer improvements. Commissioner Zetocha told Steve the Park District has already put \$250,000 into the soccer complex and we would like to see the complex completed also. Commissioner Zetocha suggested the Park District be a resource for the Soccer Club for any fundraising / pledge questions or issues that come up since we have recent experience with that subject.

Commissioner Odegaard informed Steve that the Park District could make no commitment on such a short notice, but will look into the issue soon.

Next on the agenda was the Eagle Run Elementary School access. Commissioner Fugere and Business Manager Germundson summarized their meeting from last week with members of the school district and the city. The four main points are: 1) connecting of parking lots between the school and park; 2) control of Lakeside Way from 9th Street to the first speed bump; 3) control of remaining Lakeside Way and Grandview Way; 4) school buying and placing playground equipment on park property.

Commissioner Zetocha made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson to agree to dedicate the first section of Lakeside Way (need approximate feet from Ohnstad Twichel) to the city of West Fargo. Commissioners Johnson, Scully, Zetocha, Fugere, and Odegaard voting aye; motion carried.

All the commissioners decided against giving the city of West Fargo access to do maintenance on the remaining Lakeside Way and Grandview Way. Commissioner Zetocha stressed that the Park District needs to control the flow of traffic in the park and only the Park District should decide when to open the remaining roads up for winter use.

Commissioner Zetocha made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve parking lot access between the school district and park district subject to installation of gates for those dates mutually agreed on with the West Fargo School District. Commissioners Johnson, Scully, Zetocha, Fugere, and Odegaard voting aye; motion carried.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Scully to allow the West Fargo School District to purchase playground equipment that will be placed on Rendezvous Park with maintenance and a walk way to be provided by the school district. Commissioners Scully, Zetocha, Fugere, Johnson, and Odegaard voting aye; motion carried.

The Lake Agassiz Bowman contract was the next item. They requested March 23, 24, and 25 of 2007 for the state archery shoot. They would pay a \$150 setup fee plus \$2500 for the arena rental.

Commissioner Fugere made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Zetocha to approve the Lake Agassiz Bowman contract for March 23, 24, and 25 of 2007. Commissioners Zetocha, Fugere, Johnson, Scully and Odegaard voting aye; motion carried.

Director Erbstoesser discussed the KASS 3rd Addition. She recommended accepting cash in lieu due to the small size (36,000 sq. ft.).

Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Fugere to accept cash in lieu for the KASS 3rd Addition. Commissioners Fugere, Johnson, Scully, Zetocha, and Odegaard voting aye; motion carried.

Business Manager Germundson presented his summary on ice rental rates. He found that our average per hour cost for Vets I and II (winter months, 2004 – 06) is \$88 per hour. He reminded the board that we currently charge \$80 per hour. He also found that Vets I and II are at the bottom of area ice rental rates. Business Manager Germundson recommended raising the per hour ice rental charge to \$90 per hour.

Commissioner Zetocha stressed we need to at least break even when operating a facility such as Veterans Memorial Arena. The Park Board suggested that Business Manager Germundson inform the West Fargo Hockey Association and West Fargo Public Schools of the possible increase and decide on it at April's Park Board meeting.

Recreation Manager Belisle gave an update on the wrapping up of winter activities. He also discussed the upcoming brochure and spring events.

Commissioner Scully made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

WF Park Board Chair, Sharon Odegaard

WF Park Board Clerk, Justin Germundson