

FARIBAULT PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lola Brand, Sally Kramer, Chad Kreager, Mike Ross, Troy Temple.  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Sarah Caron, Henry Schonebaum and Elsie Slinger. STAFF PRESENT:  
Paul Peanasky, Parks & Recreation Director, and Denise Hansen, Administrative Assistant.

- 1) Meeting was called to order by Chad at 6:04 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Troy, seconded by Mike to approve minutes of May 26, 2021. Motion passed.
- 3) Presentation: None.
- 4) Director's Report:
  - a) Parks 2022 CIP: Paul reviewed two large CIP projects to be done in 2022 in the Parks and Recreation Department. One project will be replacing the roof on the Community Center in conjunction with the library at a total cost of \$1.4 million. Another large project will be replacing the playground equipment at Wapacuta Park.
  - b) Northern Link Trail: Plans are to complete the Northern Link trail going under the railroad track along 20<sup>th</sup> Street NW in 2023.
  - c) Climate Resilience Meeting: Paul stated City staff met with representatives from the MPCA, DNR and the Minnesota governor's office to discuss Faribault's climate resilience program. They reviewed programs the City of Faribault is implementing regarding climate resilience.
- 5) Requests to be Heard: None.
- 6) Old Business:
  - a) Inclusive Playground: Paul will email the Board the pictures taken during the park tour. Paul spoke of the need for some public fundraising and for a public committee to build an inclusive playground. Board asked about bonding for an inclusive playground. Paul will discuss bonding for the playground with city staff.
  - b) Fleckenstein Bluffs Park (Old Public Works Site Park): Paul reported the footings for the building at Fleckenstein Bluffs Parks are being redesigned.
  - c) Viaduct Park: Sally reported the viaduct park plan currently includes a skating loop for ice skating or roller blading, native Faribault flower garden, band shell, exercise equipment, portable staging area and splash pad. It also includes lights on the viaduct bridge. Board discussed connecting the park to Virtues Park. Paul stated Council is considering moving the park to the south side of the bridge as the north side may be purchased by a developer. Council has not yet made a decision on the proposal. Board discussed keeping the park on the north side where there is a view of the river and develop the south side instead. The south side has power lines and view obstructions but is a larger area for development.
  - d) Prairie Park: Playground Option 1 was chosen as the playground for Prairie Park. It will be installed next summer. Paul stated the city will notify area residents of the

playground decision and notify them that white stakes are placed along the trail showing where trees will be planted in the park. Trees will be planted inside the trail because there is not enough room for a park mower between the trees and back yards if trees are planted outside the trail. There are stakes for forty trees to be planted but if homeowners do not wish for a tree between their back yard and the park, the stakes will be relocated.

10) New Business:

- a) Chad Barman: Chad Barman is the new Adult Program Coordinator and will be starting on Monday, September 27.
- b) Home Town Holiday, Christmas Trees & Winterfest: Paul stated these three events will be promoted together: Home Town Holiday, Christmas Trees in Central Park and Winterfest. The events will be held on Thursday, December 2, and Saturday, December 4. The Chamber may add another event on Friday, December 3.
- c) 2022 Heritage Days Update: Paul reported that Council is giving an additional amount of \$45,000 to Heritage Days 2022 to help promote the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Faribault.
- d) New Banner Program: Paul met with Virginia von Sluis who is proposing a banner program to recognize veterans past and present. People can purchase a personalized banner of their veteran which will be displayed in areas of the city. Virginia is working in cooperation with the Elks, the Chamber and the City. When the banners are taken down, they'll be given to the family or person who purchased the banner. Paul shared a mockup of the banner style. They will be hung next summer and scholarships will be available for purchase as well. Depending on how many banners are purchased, they may be hung seasonably and will be replaced as needed. Board is supportive of the banner program.

11) Other:

- a) Bell Field Backstop: Mike reported the Faribault Booster Club approved Charlie Lechtenberg's, request to purchase a new backstop for Bell Field.
- b) Wapacuta Basketball Court: Lola stated there has been a lot of use of the new basketball courts at Wapacuta Park.

12) Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 27, 2021.

13) Motion was made by Sally, seconded by Mike to adjourn at 6:37 p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Hansen, Administrative Assistant