

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF DELANO**  
**Park and Recreation Commission**  
**Wednesday, March 22, 2017**  
**5:00 PM**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda**

Present: Mike Lindquist, Marnie Lucas, Jonathon Werth, Sarah Berres, Tom Schaffer

Not Present: Dan Menk, Sean Peterson

Also Present: Phil Kern, City Administrator; Jon Sutherland, City Council; Makenzie Krause, Recorder

**3. Minutes**

**4. Election of Officers: Chair and Vice Chair**

Moved to next meeting

**5. Order of Business**

A. Splash Pad

Phil began the meeting by discussing the potential splash pad that could come to town. Landscape Structures, a major employer in town, acquired a company from Eden Prairie that does work with water products. Because they now have the ability to do so, Landscape wants to do a project in Delano, namely, a splash pad. It was budgeted for in 2007, but was scrapped after the economy went down. In January of 2017, the Delano GFWC contacted Landscape and asked to put a splash pad in town, and Landscape responded with great interest. It is up to City Council to put money towards the projects, but if they approve it, it will come back to Parks and Rec for approval of the aspects of the park.

Jon Sutherland asked if money can come from park dedication fees. Phil replied no, and that those fees typically go to the neighborhoods where the parks are.

Phil continued by noting that it is a 3 tier project. The project has elements for all age groups. Its site layout includes a sitting wall that is a “dry zone” for parents or kids. There is a “wet zone” and “dry zone”, both of which are textured to be anti-slippery. It is completely accessible.

Landscape has provided the list price of the entire project: it includes 36 spray features, and everything above ground has a \$208,000.00 market value. Landscape would provide all of these pieces free of cost. The next part of the bid is the mechanical system, which would be a reusable water system. They would sell it for \$42,000.00.

The professional services would cost approximately \$6,600. The installation is the big ticket for the City, bringing its total to \$281,000.00, approximately half of the market value cost.

After much review of areas throughout Delano, city staff feels that Central Park is the best location. There were a number of spots that we examined in this area: right behind the Grandstand, across the road from the Grandstand, by the dance floor, and south of the grandstand. After reviewing the different possibilities of these spots, the dance floor location has proven to be the most viable.

Jon asked if using the dance floor would displace anything, and Phil replied that it would displace practically nothing. There are a few minor things stored there, but nothing huge.

Phil noted that the city also needs to figure out a way to secure the bathrooms. Since the splash pad will need to be checked twice daily, it is possible that the person doing the checking could also lock up the bathrooms.

Potential vandalism is a drawback, so the city will need to look at improving the lighting in the area as well.

Tom asked if the design will include fencing. Phil replied that there hasn't been a decision regarding that aspect of the design yet because the city wants to wait for council approval first before making design decisions.

Marnie asked if there are showers at the park, and Phil noted that, while there are not any showers, an outdoor one could definitely be added.

Jon Werth asked about parking nearby, to which Phil commented that the location is about a block from any parking.

To conclude this discussion, Phil noted that, if council decides to approve it, then the Parks and Rec Commission may need to have an "emergency" meeting in April to make some decisions.

#### B. Review and provide comment on the public art application

[http://www.delano.mn.us/2017\\_City\\_Council/Mar7/5A1\\_Att1\\_ArtApplication.pdf](http://www.delano.mn.us/2017_City_Council/Mar7/5A1_Att1_ArtApplication.pdf)

A number of years ago, the city had an application to put art on the highway. As a result of this application, city staff created a policy that provided for a review process for groups looking to donate art to the community. Staff reviews it to ensure that the project's purpose is that it is consistent with the city's values. The group making the current application has demonstrated that they are capable of following these guidelines, and that the art walk created by the city was created for pieces such as the one in this application.

Sarah asked if there will be a plaque or any signage to explain the art, to which Makenzie replied that the group has been asking about different ways they could utilize signage. Mike also commented that signage would definitely be appreciated.

Sarah asked if the city will need to pay for the project if it does not receive the grant, and Phil

replied that the group make it a recommendations that the project be fully funded in order for it to be created.

Mike made the motion to move forward with this project and was seconded by Sarah. If the project doesn't get the grant, the commission could take it into review again. Tom then noted that the commission could add to the motion that the project is dependent on funding. Motion carried.

Sarah volunteered to be the representative to talk to Council about the project.

#### C. Utility box art

Makenzie led the discussion on the utility box art. She noted that Deb Debeer, a member of the Arts group, is working on tracking down artists to create the designs. The question of funding is still on the table, but the wraps for the boxes will likely be \$15 per square foot. Jon then commented that the Legacy Fund could be a potential means of paying for this project.

Makenzie also noted that Joe Schleif of Vital Signs would be able to help with the production of the wraps.

#### D. Review the project list

After reviewing the project list, the commission noted that it would be helpful to color code the projects to help differentiate what stages they are in. The list will remain organized by park, but to have an additional means of classifying the projects will be helpful to all of the members.

The group also discussed the Litfin lot and potential ideas for working with it.

Mike suggested that in May or June the commission should do a walkthrough of the different parks to see what state they are in.

#### E. Park materials (Central Park)

Makenzie reported that two citizens in town were concerned about the rubber in Central Park. They were worried that it is dangerous for children to play in and that it might be best to replace it with different material.

Mike commented that each of the members should do research on rubber. It is in playgrounds everywhere, including the school, so it is important for everyone to do some research.

Sarah then noted that research is divided half and half in regards to its safety, and that namely, it is up to the communities themselves to decide what they want.

Makenzie commented that she would contact Landscape Structures, the creator of the park, to see if the company had any concerns.

## F. Adopt a Park

Because the Adopt a Park program proved to be successful with Krienke, the group thought it would be beneficial to try to expand the program to other neighborhoods. At the next meeting, the group will review a list of which parks are adopted and will decide a means for advertising.

Tom commented that it is unfortunate that it is so expensive to advertise on the sign along Highway 12.

## 6. Other Business

The commission wanted to see what could be done about spreading information about the fire pit. Phil then commented that it hasn't really been marketed yet because the city is still in the process of making changes to the lock.

Jon asked about nature conservation areas, and Sarah commented that we should be doing something to preserve the natural beauty that exists throughout town. Phil replied that there aren't any areas with that designation, but that there are a variety of open spaces and park land that hasn't been touched.

Marnie asked about a possible rain garden, and Phil commented that that topic could be discussed and better presented at the next meeting.

## 7. Adjournment

The Parks and Recreation meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.