

MINUTES
CITY OF DELANO
Park and Recreation Commission
Wednesday, February 28, 2018
5:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Schaffer called the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda

Present: Sarah Berres, Mike Lindquist, Marnie Lucas, Dan Menk, Sean Peterson, Tom Schaffer, Jonathan Werth.

Also Present: Jon Sutherland, City Council Liaison; Phil Kern, City Administrator; Justin Markon, Administrative Intern

3. Minutes

A. January 24, 2018 minutes

January 24, 2018 minutes

Menk moved to approve the minutes of the meeting on January 24, 2018, seconded by Peterson; motion carried.

4. Order of Business

A. Concession building update

Markon shared that sub-contractor work for plumbing and electric is underway. Three man-doors are hung and have doorknobs. Additional work will start as the weather warms.

B. Update on city rentals in 2016 and 2017

Markon updated the Commission on their request for rental revenue from 2017. There was general discussion on the use of public facilities as rentals. Schaffer asked why the fire hall is not rented out, and Kern responded that the building poses some challenges, such as parking and the bathroom being in the fire truck area. Sutherland noted that the City could hire an architect to sketch a drawing to make the area useable for groups. Berres said that she would like to see a comparison of rental facilities. Kern said that staff could work on an issues analysis for the fire hall and other spaces. Menk shared that he feels increase the visibility of facilities. Markon said that the City will use the Delano Go-To-Guide and new website to highlight rental options.

C. Update on Litfin property

Kern shared that many ideas have been proposed for the Litfin site, near the Public Works

building on River Street North. Concepts plans have showed sports facilities and ice rinks. Schaffer said that with more large events, a campground may be a profitable option for the site. Lucas said it may be helpful to conduct a public survey for possibilities. Werth said that he liked the idea of a campground, though he would be concerned from the smell of the nearby Waste Water Treatment Facility. He is in favor of trails and access. Berres said that from personal experience she believes walk-in camp sites would be a good option. Kern said that the City has been somewhat successful on MN DNR trail grant applications. Additionally, he said that staff could work with Al Brixius to update the 2014 park area report, taking into account the option of a campground and park. Camping would be an allowable use in the floodplain. From previous discussions, Kern said that it may be possible to partner with Wright County for a campground and share profits.

D. Updates on previous agenda items

Kern shared that the developer of the Langdon View property, near Fox Meadows, hired an archeology company to explore possible Native American burial mounds. The group still plans to develop the property, which may now begin in May or June. The Commission will discuss a park area once a preliminary plat is submitted.

Werth asked if there are plans to develop river access south of the City. Kern said that the City's 2011 Parks & Trails plan calls for using spaces in the floodplain as public greenway, including possible trails. Staff will put together a discussion of floodplain uses for a future Commission meeting.

5. Other Business

Kern noted that April is typically the time of year for a parks assessment, and Schaffer asked if that meeting could take place at the new concession building. Kern said it could, and additionally the 4th of July committee might have a test-run of the building in May.

Commissioners discussed the 5:00 pm meeting time, after Sutherland shared that the Council discussed the topic at their January workshop. Commissioners said that they believe 5:00 is still a good meeting time.

6. Adjournment

Lindquist moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Werth; the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.