

MINUTES
CITY OF DELANO
Park and Recreation Commission
Wednesday, September 24, 2014
5:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Chair Joe Schleper called the regular meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission of Wednesday, September 24, 2014 to order at 5:03 PM

2. Roll Call & Approval of Agenda

Members present: Joe Schleper, Chair
Dan Menk
Holly Schrupp
Merle Wagner
Mike Lindquist
Jason Franzen
Dan Vick, Council liaison
Tom Schaffer

Members absent: None

Also present: Phil Kern, City Administrator;
Devin Massopust, Recorder

3. Minutes

Motion by Jason Franzen, seconded by Merle Wagner to approve the minutes of the Park and Recreation Commission of September 3rd, 2014. Motion approved.

4. Order of Business

Delano area residents approached the Commission to advocate for more and improved tennis courts within the City. They stated that lighted tennis courts would be used extensively as the popularity of the sport has increased across all ages. They also noted that the Delano High School team has a talented team and that new tennis courts would be an investment in the future of the team. Lindquist responded that tennis courts for the school would need to be addressed by the school system and that there is a committee being formed to discuss existing and potential facilities, including tennis courts

A. Update on Barb King Inspiration Park and Movement of Equipment.

The Commission was updated on the status of ongoing projects at Barb King Inspiration Park, including the installation of new benches on each concrete pad that had been installed as well as a shading structure.

B. Discuss Litfin Land.

Kern updated the Commission on the status of the potential park at the Litfin land. He stated that Wright County prefers a joint park, but that Franklin Township board members are split. He noted that Legacy Funds are available to parks 100 acres or larger, which makes a regional park with the County ideal. He stated that it would be wise to start the park planning process which includes inviting the City Planner to lay out some issues and examine the overall park system in Delano to see what can be done with the land.

Schaffer asked how much of the land is usable for park uses. Kern replied that the condition of sale is contingent upon environmental cleanliness and that the land will be studied to ensure that it is usable.

Menk stated that he would like to see a fair amount of the land used for active field space as the City is currently strained for space and that a passive park may just be duplicating Rebecca Park.

Chairman Schleper stated that this is a type of project that the City needs and has been looking for so Al Brixius, Delano City Planner, should be invited to the Park and Recreation Commission meeting in October.

C. Discuss Parks and Recreation 2015 Capital Improvement Plan.

The Commission was presented with a report prepared by City of Delano staff that detailed the exact balance and expenditures of the Park Dedication Fund which is used to finance park related projects within the City. The report indicated that there is currently a negative balance within the fund and that new developments, including Parkview Hills 5th Addition, have already paid park dedication funds. Because of this, it makes funding any significant park project through the capital improvement plan difficult. Staff noted that the plan would still be updated with new justifications and priorities for the Council to examine while making budget decisions.

Kern also said that though funding for park related projects has been low or nonexistent, many substantial park projects have been completed in recent times through other City projects such as street reconstruction and donations.

D. Discuss ongoing communication strategies.

E. Outstanding items from previous meetings.

Schaffer updated the Commission on how only \$600 was needed in donations to begin conducting a feasibility study on an aquatic facility within the City.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.