

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF DELANO**  
**Park and Recreation Commission**  
**Wednesday, January 22, 2020**  
**5:00 PM**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Werth called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

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

**Members Present:** Joe Schleper, Jonathan Werth, Jessie Koch, Tom Schafer, Marnie Lucas, Delano Schools Liaison Chris Runke, Council Liaison Jon Sutherland

**Members Absent:** Sarah Berres, Sean Peterson

**Also present:** Phil Kern, City Administrator

Kern recommended the agenda include a discussion about picnic tables in parks. Schleper requested time on the agenda to talk about turf management at the main baseball field and Fox 9 Town Ball Tour.

**Motion by Koch to approve the agenda with the additions, seconded by Schleper; Motion carried.**

**3. Minutes**

A. December 2019

**Motion by Jon Werth, second by Lucas, to approve the December minutes as drafted.**  
**Motion carried.**

**4. Order of Business**

A. Update on Skating/Hockey Facility

Kern presented an update of the skating/hockey facility at Central Park. The project planning continues and a preliminary budget was shared. The budget refinement will continue over the next month. The budget at this point contains a \$300,000 anticipated gap to be filled, with the bulk of the funding coming from private sources and the City's Park Dedication fund.

Kern reviewed the scope of the project, which is consistent with the discussion at the December Park and Recreation Commission meeting. Sutherland stated that he would prefer to see the outdoor skating area, in addition to the hockey rink, be refrigerated to maximize use of the facility as much as possible. Schaffer suggested perhaps that could be done as an alternate to the upfront bid.

The Commission discussed options and ideas with the project and did not take any action. Kern stated that possibly as soon as February the project would be ready for a

recommendation.

B. Discuss Splashpad for upcoming season

Kern reviewed details from the 2019 Splashpad season and talked through staff recommendations for the upcoming year. Staff is recommending to continue operations essentially consistent with the 2019 plan, however with modifications to the staffing model. An idea that could be considered is to provide one attendant position for the operation, with a second available on high traffic days (consistent with higher than normal temperatures).

The Commission discussed the pay model and group reservation process. Schleper stated that the model is proven to work and the Commission agreed that no changes would be needed in 2020. Schaffer requested staff to look at the water heater and make sure it was operating properly for the 2020 season.

C. Discuss park maintenance and facility staffing

Kern shared that staff was preparing a plan for the City to create a position for Central Park and other facilities to oversee reservations and operations of facilities. Kern described the position as a park host and perhaps someone that would also oversee Splashpad operations. The idea is someone to provide facility oversight, welcome facility users, and make sure facility use policies were adhered to with operations. The Commission discussed the scope and possibilities of such a position.

D. Discuss picnic tables in parks

Kern reviewed an inventory of all picnic tables in all parks. The City has been replacing 3 picnic tables per year in Central Park and staff is recommending a review of all parks to see what the needs are across the City. Kern shared that there are 46 picnic tables in public parks within the City. Of these tables, 32 are in satisfactory or better condition and 14 are in need of replacement. The City also 5 parks within picnic tables that do not meet ADA standards.

The Commission discussed the process for replacing tables at a rate of 3 per year. Kern stated that once all poor tables are replaced, this quantity should be sufficient, but given the quantity of poor ones today it will be difficult to catch up. Kern also stated that new tables are being ordered in dark colors to help reduce the visual appearance of wear and tear over time.

Sutherland stated that the replacement of tables should be a general fund item and not a park dedication fund expense. Schaffer supported moving forward with a catch-up plan to get all poor ones replaced in 2020. Werth stated that if the City is going to order a significant quantity, now would be a good time to make sure that each park has an ADA-accessible table. Schleper suggested in Central Park better use could be made of the tables if they were spread out instead of in groups.

**Motion by Werth, seconded by Schaffer, to recommend the City replace 14 picnic tables in 2020, with the condition of purchasing the necessary quantity to provide at least 1 ADA-accessible table in each park that offers picnic tables. Motion carried.**

E. Discuss turf management at the Main Baseball Stadium

Schleper stated that the Delano Athletic Club is looking at maintenance of the turf at the main baseball field and ways to fund the ongoing efforts to maintain the field. Schleper stated that the Club was working with outside contractors and would be coming up with plan for ongoing maintenance.

F. Discuss Fox 9 Town Ball Tour

Schleper shared that Fox 9 News had selected Delano as one of its sites for the 2020 Summer Town Ball Tour. Fox 9 will be broadcasting its newscasts on June 17 from Delano throughout the day. Schleper stated that Fox 9 has requested ideas for the broadcasts and will be open to community input on how to best showcase Delano. The Commission stated it would think of ideas and thanked Schleper, the Athletic Club, and the Delano A's for its work getting this event in town.

## 5. Other Business

A. Review matters from previous meetings

## 6. Adjournment

**Parks and Recreation Regular meeting was adjourned at 6:40PM by Chair Werth.**

Next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is on February 26, 2020, at 5 P.M.