

March 13th, 2025, Playground and Recreation Board minutes regular meeting.

Recreation Board members present: Brent Roalson, Maribeth Manigold, Randy Bretag, Melissa Hulse, Phil McNally, Jason Rix, Ryan Cantilin

Other City Officials attending: Steve Kuhn, Marla Pearson, Tami Koppen

Recreation Board members absent: Sarah Nanouski, Steve Brenbarger

- I. Approve February Minutes: Maribeth motions, Jason seconds, all approved and motion passed.
- II. Approve February Recreation Financial Report: Maribeth motions, Phil seconds, all approved and motion passed.
- III. Guests: Justine Larabee
 - a. She spoke about mental health needs and a project at Allen Park that on one side would be an art structure representing hope and on the other would be a mental health hub. Kind of like a micro pantry but inside would be affirmation cards, board games, art supplies, and local resources for mental health, food, housing and more.
 - b. They would need to speak with the Art Committee to get something together for this project and get an idea of what we need for this project. A layout/design that explains what it is and how it helps.
 - c. Possibly at other parks as well in the future.
- IV. Commissioner's Report:
 - a. Bill Walsh Jr. and family have pledged \$50,000.00 towards the fence at the dog park. Steve is going to schedule Grand Rapids for watering and ordering the fencing. Need the board to vote on getting that work done and then Marla will reimburse us from her budget. \$1,200 donation for equipment. Going through budget meetings Rigdens pour in place and Peck parks walkway are not looking good to get done. If one project goes through hopefully it is the Rigden pour in place for the kids.
 - b. B&G Electric for the North Diamond we were hopeful for a three-way split with a total of \$19,860.00 for the LED lights and so that we are not funding the whole thing it would be roughly \$6,600.00 for each. If not, then we would ask Jay Tim and the organization to get close to half, if possible, to help with the upgrades.
- V. Recreation Board President's Report
 - a. Lions Club is still a possibility, still waiting on legal to get an agreement with their legal team. Removal of the bar for offices and it is getting closer to finalizing. \$21,000.00 for the roof to be repaired.
 - b. Batting cages up north, we will be paying for one of the cages to be renovated.

- c. Shed should be going up next week, permit for the new one and the old one was torn down.

VI. Director's Report:

- a. The pool is opening Memorial Day weekend.
- b. Passes are being sold at the pool and city hall.
 - i. Passes are just going to be numbered, hopefully we can get an excel sheet so that we know who has purchased one. Names of people on the back.
- c. Possibly doing food truck for the pool?
- d. Hard time for a third safety town after 5pm because of presenters, staffing, and location.
- e. May 4th, Yorkville Big Band is coming from 2pm-4pm
- f. Question about Family Only swimming, maybe change name to after hour swimming.

VII. Old Business – N/A

VIII. Long Range Planning and Board Goals:

- a. Getting the situation at Rigden resolved.

IX. Committee Reports

- a. By-laws (Maribeth) - N/A
- b. Financial/Budget (Ryan) – N/A
- c. Parks (Randy B, Steve) – N/A
- d. Programs (Maribeth, Ryan, Jason) – N/A
- e. Leagues (Brent, Phil, Melissa, Jason)
 - i. Bid for B & G Electrical
 - ii. OGFA \$8,000 maintenance money
 - iii. Weather Radios
 - iv. Batting Cages at June Gross Fields: Cages are in shambles, and they need to be repaired. Wolfpack is willing to put the net up on one of the cages if we reimburse them for the net. \$1,300.00 for a new net online. This net will stay with the field/property. This batting cage is open for everyone. Nothing gets taken down for the winter, or nobody has any special claim to it. Only fixing the one cage for now. We need to supply the net to them so that there is no issues. If they want to expand or to do anything else they are needing to present it to the board.

f. Social Media / Internet (Melissa, Steve, Jason) – N/A

X. New Business

- i. Bid for B & G Electrical: \$6,620.00 each for Commissioner Pearson, Rec Board and Little League for lights, lift, and wiring. Maribeth motioned for the split; Randy seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
- ii. OGFA maintenance money \$8,000 for all 4 fields (\$2,000.00) per field Ryan motioned, Jason seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
- iii. Backstop netting at Olumn new wires, and probably new netting.
- iv. Motion for Amanda to purchase 4 more weather radios. Melissa motioned. Randy seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
- v. Batting cages at June Gross Field up to \$1,500.00. Maribeth motioned. Phil seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
- vi. All type fence: \$43,520 for the dog park. Melissa motioned. Maribeth seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
- vii. Grand Rapids drinking fountains at the dog park under \$20,000.00 Maribeth motioned. Jason seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
- viii. Memorial bench in the dog park for the Ottawa Recreation Board. Phil motioned. Melissa seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

XI. Adjourn: Melissa motioned. Jason seconded. All in favor, motion passed.