

City of Hastings
Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers
April 10, 2012 – 6:00 PM UNAPPROVED

- 1) **Roll Call at 6 pm:** Commissioners Smith, Miller, Hawkins, Polehna, Kimmen & Schossow, Parks & Recreation Director Bernstein, PRC Secretary Behrens
Absent: Commissioners Hedin & Juntunen
- 2) **March Minutes:** Motion to approve March minutes as presented by Smith. Seconded by Schossow. Passed unanimously.
- 3) **Setting Agenda:** Bernstein added “Tennis Court Repairs” under New Business.
- 4) **Departmental Updates:** Department updates were reviewed with the commissioners. The Mississippi boat dock has been installed. Staff found out two weeks ago that the area was very shallow (2-3 ft) and that dredging would be a good idea. Staff tried to use the permit we had gotten when the dock was installed to dredge the area, but it had expired. The permitting process through the Corps & DNR takes 45-60 days. Shallow water buoys have been installed and staff will attempt to get permits to dredge the area late this fall or early spring next year. Smith asked if the dock could be extended a few feet. Unfortunately, the ramp to the dock is not extendable so this isn’t an option. If Portable Barge is in town for another project in the future and we have received our permit, we may be able to get them to do the dredging sooner. Otherwise, staff is looking at late fall or early next spring for dredging work to be completed.
- 5) **Play Fields:** With the early spring this year, the fields started to dry out earlier than normal. Staff still requested that people stay off the fields to allow time for the turf to get well established. The fields are open now and people are using them. Miller commented that even for residential lawns that is good turf management practice and makes sense for the play fields.
- 6) **Play Equipment Purchase:** This year, Crestview Park is slated to receive new playground equipment. Bernstein asked the PRC if they would like to repeat the process that we went through last year – inviting vendors in to offer options to the PRC and then voting on a vendor and equipment. Polehna and Smith felt that if the process worked well, it makes sense to do it again. Since the neighborhood will be invited to the PRC meeting to give their input, there was some discussion as to how many vendors to include due to time limitations. It was agreed to have an open house prior to the PRC meeting at 6:00 PM, with the vendors presenting their options to the neighborhood. Staff will provide survey sheets for the residents to fill out on the various options. Presentations can be given at the meeting and then the PRC can take all of the information into account when deciding on a vendor/equipment.
- 7) **New Business:**
 - Tennis Court Repairs: The tennis courts at Roadside Park are severely compromised with cracking, heaving, bird baths (depressions in the surface that fill with water). Staff has had the courts crack-filled for the past several years to minimized water seeping into the cracks. In 2011, no crack-filling was completed due to budget restrictions. For 2012, \$78,000 has been budgeted to complete more extensive repairs to the tennis courts. Staff contacted four companies for bids on the project. Both Court Surfaces and Lee Sport Surfaces refused to give bids on repair work because they feel the courts are in too bad of shape and are in need of a complete overhaul – at the cost of \$250,000-\$400,000. Sport Court gave an estimate of \$132,643 to place a tile product over the court surface. The issue with this product is that it doesn’t address the bituminous surface, which would still have to be maintained. Upper Midwest Athletic Construction bid \$78,000 to repair the courts with an Armor Coat crack repair system. Bernstein and Likes visited Apple Valley who used the product on their courts and were impressed with the results after a 5 year period. According to Bernstein’s understanding, this product comes with a 10 year warranty. The courts will be more level and in better shape than they are now once the repairs are done. Schossow asked about the need to crack fill if cracks appear. Bernstein said that Upper Midwest will make the repairs if we get cracking. Polehna asked if we should look at doing half of the courts this year and half the courts another year so that we could possibly address the foundation issues. Bernstein stated that while the best fix is to completely redo the courts, it is cost prohibitive at this point. Trying to complete repairs in stages might actually be more expensive because the company is mobilizing twice for the same project. With \$78,000 to work with, staff feels that Upper Midwest might be the best option outside of completely redoing the courts (cost-prohibitive) or closing the courts down completely (courts are too highly used to close them down). Schossow asked that staff make sure to budget for the more complete tennis court repairs for the future.
MOTION: Smith motioned to recommend that City Council accept the bid from Upper Midwest Athletic Construction and proceed with repairs. Seconded by Miller. Passed unanimously.

8) **Old Business:**

- Veterans Park Concession Stand is now equipped to accept credit card payments for the first time. This will benefit both the consumer and staff.
- Bernstein received plans from the DNR on the renovation of the boat launch today. This topic will be included on the May PRC agenda.
- The new 46/47 trail connection funding was approved by City Council and the process is continuing.

MOTION to adjourn.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 8, 2012; 6:00 PM; City Hall Council Chambers

Adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Kristin Behrens