



Mitchell Park, Recreation & Forestry Board Minutes

11/3/2022 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chris Retterath, President of Board at 6:00 PM

Present: Chris Retterath, Andy Jerke, Luke Norden, Austin Havlik

Absent: Pat Skinner, Jeremy Gunkel, Clayton Deuter. Council Liaison: Marty Barington

Staff present: Kevin Nelson, Kevin DeVries, Angel DeWaard, Steve Roth, Jeremy Nielsen

2. PUBLIC INPUT - If You Need To Address The Park Board On An Item That Was Not On The Agenda, Excluding Personnel Items, Please Come Forward To The Podium And State Your Name And Concern. Presentations Will Be Limited To Three Minutes. Items Will Be Considered But No Action Will Be Taken At This Time.

3. DELEGATIONS

A. Hockey Association - Request Approval Of Arena Facility Improvements/Scoreboards

A delegation from MSHA represented by Eric Sabers, President were present. Mr. Sabers presented a request to the Board for approval of Ice Arena facility improvements/scoreboards, noting no cost to the city as MSHA will be covering all costs for improvements/scoreboards as follows: Installation of (2) two scoreboards, modifications required to mounting system; Installation of power to Time of Day clock position above Innovative door into lobby and Installation of (4) four new locker room clocks in Toshiba 1, 2, 5 & 6 and rewiring of Innovative locker rooms for switchable display between rink clocks. Board thanked Mr. Sabers for his presentation, noting the request will be addressed during new business.

4. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Move item #8 Approval of Arena Facility Improvements/Scoreboards under new business up on agenda to #5. Motion Jerke, Second Norden to move item #8 Approval of Arena Facility Improvements/Scoreboards under new business up on agenda to #5. Motion carried.

5. Approval Of Arena Facility Improvements/Scoreboards

After a brief discussion, Motion Jerke, Second Havlik to approve the Arena Facility Improvements/Scoreboards as presented. Motion carried.

6. Approval Of Minutes

Minutes of the October 13, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Motion Havlik, Second Norden to approve the October 13, 2022 Minutes as read. Motion carried.

7. Approve Financial Reports

Motion Norden, Second Havlik to approve the Bills as submitted. Motion carried with Jerke abstaining from voting due to a conflict of interest.

8. Department Reports

Recreation Board Report

October 14th – November 3rd

Kevin DeVries

Programs:

Men's Flag football has wrapped up its season and Coed Volleyball will be starting up Mid November on Sundays at the Armory. Should have 12-14 teams. Our youth basketball programs for K-6th grade started on October 10th. We ended up with 135 kids which is great to see considering some of the other new basketball leagues starting up this year. We did have to cancel our first DIY program with crazy about cupcakes but our board and brush one will be held on October 27th. We still have 2 more in November along with Youth tennis lessons and wrestling still to come.

Todd, Jamie and I are still working on new programs for the upcoming spring and summer. We will start working on the summer brochure in the next couple months as well.

Recreation Center:

Things are going very well at the Rec Center despite the pool not being ready yet. Our membership numbers are running around 3600 which is better than before the pandemic so we are still holding strong. Our revenue is ahead of last year to this point as well but will drop off some due to swim club rental, weekend day passes, birthday party rentals and concessions without the pool but overall is great.

As of writing this report we still don't know the status of the pool but hope to know by our board meeting on the 3rd.

We will be hosting a lift-a-thon on Saturday, October 29th. A former member Ryan Hanks will be coordinating it and all of the proceeds will go to the Rec Center in memory of former Rec Center Director Rob Marchand. We will be using the weight room that day from about 8 to noon.

We've stayed very busy after school with kids and athletes. There will be as many as 30-35 kids in the Multi-purpose room and weight room at one time which is awesome to see.

Our new ellipticals and rowers came in and members are excited about that. We are looking forward to the new treadmills and stair stepper we will be getting at the first of the year to complete our equipment replacement.

Mueller lumber has taken all of the ceiling down in the old pool and getting things ready to move forward at the beginning of 2023 with the rest of the remodel of that room.

Dave Helleloid from the Days Inn has generously let us use their pool on Monday & Wednesday mornings for our aqua classes. We really appreciate his accommodations and the ladies are very glad to get back in the water. We will start that November 2nd.

Parks & Forestry

Board Report

November 2022

- *Finishing up on winterizing all the shelters, restrooms, and irrigation systems.*
- *Winterized the Campground*
- *Repaired the 4" irrigation line in Hitchcock Park*
- *Removed a couple of hazardous trees that were spilt*
- *Pulling the flowers out of Hitchcock and Patton Young flower beds*
- *Remove the buoys from the lake.*
- *Moved the fishing docks at Franks Bay and Sportsman's Club and took out the docks at the west end, Day Camp, and Campground*
- *Mulching leaves in the parks*
- *Finished spraying parks and areas around the lake for weeds*
- *Starting to clean up around the shop and put equipment away for the winter*

PARK BOARD REPORT – SPORTS COMPLEX

Nov. 3, 2022

CADWELL:

- *All outside activities are now finished*
- *Bathrooms are blown out, irrigation is blown out*
- *We will be taking down batters eye and batting cages at Drake*
- *Finishing up spraying this week*
- *Putting away all garbage cans, pulling all bases, mulching leaves, mowing, fence line clean up, finish edging sidewalks, put fertilizer down*

SOCCER:

- *DWU last game was last Saturday*
- *Blow out soccer bathrooms and fisher building*
- *Mowing, mulching leaves, take nets off, pull goals back, put away most garbage cans.*
- *Finished spraying fields and outer areas*
- *Put liquid fertilizer down*

ICE ARENA:

- *Started open skate and bumper cars last Friday*
- *All practices up and going*
- *Daily cleaning*
- *First games are girls 14U tournament Nov. 18-20*
- *Edging and dry shaving, adjusting gates and doors*

November 2022

Director's Board Report

Invoicing for Dry Run Creek Project

Reports were completed this week, following receipt of the final invoice related to work accomplished on the lighting project at Dry Run Creek, and a request for payment has been submitted to the DANR for reimbursement of the eligible amount of over \$90k which was able to be applied to the expenses.

Lake Readings

Lake-water quality readings will subside for the season at the end of October, as is the case each year. They will resume again once the ice is off the lake.

Parks Vandalism

We had an incident at Camp Arroya this past weekend, where one or more individuals were responsible for vandalizing (spray-painting) signage and a culvert. Clean-up was performed by parks staff the day after it was reported.

Rec Center Pool

City administrative staff participated in a proposed-solution meeting the week of October 15, during which, the parties responsible for repairs proposed a solution (fix) and a timeline. When the proposed solution didn't align with that presented during the prior meeting, it was voiced by city reps that this wasn't as thorough as had been anticipated. Responsible parties were then to have a new written proposal submitted early this past week. No such solution has been proposed as of the writing of this report.

New Press Box/Crow's Nest/Bleacher Shade

The city council approved matching the proposed funding 'brought forth' by Mitchell Baseball Association at a recent council meeting, which will result in a new structure at Cadwell Field at some point next year. The structure is in the design stage at this time.

Fees Adjustments

(Fee changes are highlighted spreadsheet. What might appear to be dramatic changes are noted below.)

Pontoon Boat for Campground

Rental rates (hourly) were approved by the Park Board last November. There is a request to tweak the \$75/hour rate to be limited to a minimum of 4 hours for such rentals. This for consideration of (likely) campground hosts who may, ultimately, be responsible for prepping (life jacket and other related safety check, etc.), cleaning, and fueling the craft, at minimum on Sundays, when no other part-time or seasonal staff are on duty within the city.

Other questions remain as to a contingency plan for if a pontoon-user gets stranded on the lake, in terms of how to get them and the pontoon back to the campground; placing the pontoon on the lift again (after it has been rented by a party), etc.

Youth Recreation and Athletics

Board members will notice on the related spreadsheet what appears to be a large variance in what will be charged versus what had been charged. This is due to co-sponsored programming and is simply in the internal record keeping. It's been asked that we now recognize all of the revenue through this program versus paying it to the co-sponsor (for coaching services) prior to it being recognized within the program revenue.

Variations in Rates for FB/Soccer and BB/SB, etc.

Board members will notice the proposed difference in field rental rates for soccer/football versus Softball/Baseball. There is much more prep expense, in terms of staff time and product (mainly paint) between the activities. The proposed increase is but a small percentage of the actual cost difference, but the department needs to pass along more of the related expenses when feasible.

Also, there is a proposed fee reduction for Mitchell Baseball for use of Drake Field, due to their involvement with making the turf possible, and also in that the (in)field will actually now cost less to maintain.

Lake (Trails) Clean-up

Work continues, via volunteer crews and parks staff, with clearing dead trees, live buckthorn, and other unsightly brush. Our department is grateful for the efforts of John McLeod and Palace City Pedalers (west of Indian Village) for their clean-up and restoration efforts (including planting trees).

Also, a candidate for an Eagle Scout badge, along with his group, have already completed two of their proposed three weekends of clean-up work along a stretch of the lake west of Celia Pines. Thank you!

Lawn Bowling

A group of four individuals, who represent the local lawn bowlers, scheduled a meeting with me last week. We spoke for nearly two hours regarding their desire to re-establish the activity in new Mitchell home in the near future.

Cemetery and Golf Rates

In another aspect of the department, I've been meeting with representatives of the Golf and Cemetery Board regarding rate 2023 adjustments for both Graceland Cemetery and Lakeview Golf Course. In addition, there will be an improvement to the perimeter of the children's cemetery, perhaps yet this fall, which will entail removal of the current heart-shaped shrubbery and installation of heart-shaped concrete in its place. This project will be funded by the Exchange Club of Mitchell.

Lake Meetings and Related Work

Meetings and progress continue, in conjunction with the mayor, city administrator, and staff from the Public Works department.

9. Approve 2023 Proposed Fees

Director Nelson submitted the 2023 Proposed Fees to the Board for approval, noting only a few changes and the addition of new fees for Drake Field due to the artificial turf. Nielson informed the Board the field per day for football & soccer increased from \$35 to \$50 due to the increased cost of painting fields and the reduction of fees on Drake for MBB for 2021. After a brief discussion, Motion Havlik, Second Jerke to approve the 2023 Proposed Fees in addition to the reduction for 2021 MBB for Drake Field. Motion carried.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 6:00 PM

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 7:09 PM