

CHISAGO COUNTY PARK BOARD OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, April 20th, 2023

At 3:00 pm, Thursday, April 20th, 2022, the Chisago County Park Board of Directors met in regular session at the Chisago County Government Center. The following members present: Jolene Wille, Frank Storm, Monica Wick, and John Pantelis. Also present: Commissioner Dahlberg, Joseph Tart; Park Director, and Kurt Schneider; Environmental Services Director. Absent: Gregg Carlson.

Meeting Summary:

- Unanimously the Board approved the agenda.
- Unanimously the Board approved the March 16th, 2023 meeting minutes.
- Park Board Members unanimously approved a donation by the Chisago County Parks and Trail Foundation and Frandsen Legacy Foundation.

Chair Storm called the meeting to order and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call of the Board members was taken. A quorum was established with all members present.

Motion by Jolene Wille to approve the agenda. Second by John Pantelis and carried unanimously.

Motion by Jolene Wille to approve the March 16th, 2023, meeting minutes. Second by John Pantelis and carried unanimously.

Citizen's Forum: Present the City of Lindstrom Mayor, Judy Chartrand, and City of Lindstrom Park Board Member, Steve Litzkow. Director Tart explained that the SIRT segment connecting Center City and Shafer is a priority. Mayor Chartrand stated that they would like to see the City of Lindstrom portion of the trail to stay on the north side of Highway 8 (north of 1st Ave going westbound).

Old Business

Fish Lake Master Plan and Regional Designation

Director Tart stated that the County Board approved the Master Plan at the April 5th County Board Meeting. Since then, the Master Plan was submitted to the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission as well as an application for Regional Designation. Director Tart explained to Park Board members that there was a lot of time and work that went into submitting the application for regional status and the Master Plan.

Sunrise Prairie Regional Trail Erosion Control Measures

Director Tart explained that were issues with erosion under Bridge 2. Before winter, the Parks Department hired Minnesota Native Landscaping to perform a process called Cedar Tree Revetment to stabilize the banks. Director Tart stated that the creek is now flowing, and the Cedar Tree Revetment is holding up. Director Tart explained that there is \$7,500 left in this project budget to clear trees to open up some sunlight lanes and seeding to try to get more vegetation on the banks.

New Business

ARPA- Project Updates

Director Tart explained that the three projects he has been working on will be funded by ARPA dollars given to the county. First project is the Single-Track Mountain Bike Course. The contractor that the Parks Department choose for this project, Pathfinder Trail Builders, will start preliminary layout design near the end of May. The contractor is very hopeful to get the main single-track trail in by fall of 2023. Second project is the Ki-Chi-Saga concession/bathroom building. The new construction plans for the Ki-Chi-Saga building are 109 square feet larger, so that means there is more space for concessions and bathrooms which helps with ADA accessibility. Construction for this project may begin in June. Third is the Cold Storage Maintenance Building. The contractor chosen for this project is Custom Pole Buildings. They will start construction in May.

2023 CIP- Updates

There is roughly \$125,000 for Capital Improvements. Projects included in the CIP Plan: Parks Maintenance Facility Well, Parking Lot Gravel and Grading, SIRT pavement repair, Parks 1998 Tractor Trailer Replacement, Parks 2001 Trailer Replacement, SPRT Subgrade Corrections and Paving, Ki-Chi-Saga Playground Swing, and SIRT- Erosion Control Measures.

2023 Parks Staffing

There are two returning Seasonal Park Maintenance employees, but there is a need for 2-3 more. There is also 3 returning Seasonal Park Collection Attendants and 3 hired Seasonal Park Rangers for the summer of 2023.

Parks and Trails Signage

Director Tart presented all the new updated signs him and support staff, Nicole Hawley, has been working on. Majority of these signs will help with safety within the parks. There were roughly 80 signs order for this project.

Sunrise Prairie Regional Trail Project- Segment G

This segment will go from North Branch to Harris. All the trees needed to be removed for this project have been removed. The trees will be hauled away the week of 4/24/23. The week of 5/1/23, Knife River will begin working on erosion control measures for this project. Knife River sent a letter to residents along the trail regarding future projects and timelines for the new trail.

DNR- Fishing Pier Area Program Application- Dennis Frandsen County Park

Chisago County Parks and Trail Foundation Member, Bob Frandsen, would like to add a new fishing pier at Dennis Frandsen County Park. Director Tart will submit the application for the new pier to the MN DNR Fishing Pier and Shore Fishing Area Program upon County Board acceptance of the donations. This application and anticipated future fishing pier will require no direct County funds, \$5,000 will be donated by Chisago County Parks and Trail Foundation and \$5,000 will be donated by Bob Frandsen as a charitable contribution. New fishing pier projects with a willing partner who is able to contribute \$10,000 or more to the cost of the pier do receive funding priority. In a typical agreement the DNR, they will provide and install the fishing pier and the LGU will provide ADA features and maintain the fishing pier for 25 years. **Motion** by Chair Storm to accept the donation from Chisago County Parks and Trail Foundation and Bob Frandsen charitable contribution. Second by Jolene Wille and carried unanimously.

Adjourn – Motion by Jolene Wille to adjourn the meeting. Second by John Pantelis and carried unanimously at 3:45 pm.