

Meeting Minutes
Board of Park Commissioners
October 4, 2006

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1. Roll Call

Present - Bahling, Barber, Curtis, Freckmann, Glodosky, Hall, McDonald, Okonek, Sevenich, Sorenson

Absent Unexcused - Robinson

Also Present - Director Schrader, Dennis Tlachac, Peggy Rentz

2. Approval of the June 7, 2006 Minutes

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Okonek to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2006 meeting and place them on file.

Ayes - all; Nays - none. Motion Carried.

3. Request to Operate Canoe/kayak and Bike Rental and Possible Bike Sales out of Nature Center Building in Iverson Park (Nature's Niche & Nature Treks LLC)

Director Schrader said Dennis Tlachac (Dino) was here to answer any questions. Director Schrader referred to his Agenda Notes saying Dino approached us asking to rent two of our unused buildings in Iverson Park for canoe rental and possible bike sales, the Nature Center is presently unused because of certain program budget cuts. He said several years ago Dino did rent the Ski Lodge on Highway 66 but the location wasn't favorable and they closed after the second year. He said they had their office at the old Best Western Hotel, but for the reasons listed in Dino's attached letter, that didn't work out.

Director Schrader referred to a handout showing the locations of the buildings being considered saying they are also asking to rent our storage building for their storage between May and September, he said we need that building after September for our storage of picnic tables and other summer materials. He added that he didn't see a problem renting these buildings with the conditions he listed in his Agenda Notes. He made particular reference to the different rental fees: \$250 if only rentals occur out of the building and \$500 if sales take place with the rentals.

Director Schrader also noted that the question of if the City wants to have businesses in the Parks arose, but since it is Park related, he didn't see that as a problem.

Okonek agreed we shouldn't set a precedence and asked if we would charge 15% on top of the \$500.00 and Director Schrader said we might come out better if we stuck with the flat fee of \$500.00 in case the sales were minimal. He said we charge a flat fee such as when a mobile unit wants to sell food. He added we will be reviewing this arrangement after one year and can make the needed adjustments at that time.

Hall asked if any of the programs will be renewed causing us to need the use of the Nature Center and Director Schrader said they aren't in the budget for next year, and unless there are some changes at the State level for distributing money, probably not in the near future.

Glodosky said he was in favor of providing a service such as this to promote use of the Green Circle and that he knew from personal experience that when people have a place to rent bicycles they will use the Green Circle. He also said people don't always use this type of equipment enough to own it, so renting is a great service.

Sorenson asked if the City will market this as part of the Parks and Director Schrader said if they request it we will put it in our summer brochure, but only if it doesn't compete with anything we are doing, and this wouldn't, we've included other, non-competing activities in the past.

Sevenich asked about parking and Director Schrader said there is plenty of parking and said the photo that was handed out doesn't really show the Nature Center because it is among the trees but he said parking is more than adequate.

Bahling asked about the outdoor storage of the rental equipment overnight for aesthetic purposes and Mr. Tlachac said they would store their boats in an off-shoot of the parking lot of the Nature Center, out of the way.

McDonald questioned signage and Tlachac said he would probably want two cedar signs, one on the building and one on Highway 10 to point the way. He said they would remove the one from the building during the off season.

Director Schrader said this will have to go through the City Attorney and the proper committees for signage approval.

Motion was made by Bahling, seconded by Hall to approve the request with the following conditions:

Have the City Attorney draft a rental agreement to contain:

- One year rental agreement, with option to renew if both parties agree
- Appropriate insurance coverage
- Use of Nature Center building April 1-Sept. 30 and Storage building May 1-Sept. 30
- Renter covers all utility costs and installation of any new utilities needed for operation of business
- Signage to be approved by City
- Any improvements/changes to structure need City approval
- Rental of \$250.00/month if only rentals occur out of building or \$500.00 if rentals and sales occur. Also the City would receive 15% gross from any programs offered. Rental of \$100.00/month to use the Storage building

Barber asked if Mr. Tlachac thought this was the best location and Mr. Tlachac said even though the visibility isn't perfect, it is better than Hartman Creek, and the business there was profitable. He said location is the advantage at Iverson. He said when they were located out of the old Best Western, competing hotels wouldn't promote his business.

Freckmann called for a voice vote on the motion.

Ayes - all; Nays - none. Motion Carried.

4. Update on KASH Playground (tour of site after meeting if light enough)

Director Schrader said it was getting pretty dark and asked if they would rather look at it on their own and he would continue with the update. The consensus was to continue with the report.

Director Schrader continued saying the landscaping is in except for the grass, the planters are in, and the poured in place will be completed by Saturday or Sunday, weather permitting. He said they have come a long way, the rainbow, sun, moon, and stars design is taking shape on the final coat. He added that the KASH Committee will be meeting and they are anticipating what they call a "Soft Opening" within the next two weeks which consists of taking the fence down and letting people enjoy the new equipment as much as they can this fall, there will be a Grand Opening in the spring. He said they are a little behind schedule, not weather related but the delay is caused by typical construction delays such as shipment delays and a little more concrete work than anticipated. He added we are beginning to get television coverage. He said this couldn't have been done without volunteers and company donations, and we will list them in a newspaper ad, preparing it ourselves so that no one gets left out. He urged anyone who hasn't looked at the new playground yet to do so.

5. Director's Report

- **Winter Sports registration is presently taking place**
- **The Central Company building is being re-roofed, next will be the Rec. Center with insulation, he added presently the gym has no insulation, and then the Open Shelter at Iverson will hopefully be re-roofed before it snows.**
- **The lights at Goerke are really nice, we've received compliments on them. He said there is a 25-year warrantee, during that time all lights and fuses are provided. The lights are monitored from Ames Iowa 24-7 and through their computers they can let us know when such things as fuses are failing so they can be replaced prior to failure. He added when the lights were being tested the people in Iowa were able to tell the electrician that there was a problem with a ground. He said the old lights were donated to the Rosholt Baseball Field and they picked them up and were pleased to get them.**

6. Adjournment

Motion was made by Sevenich, seconded by Glodosky to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

Ayes - all; Nays - none. Motion Carried.

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