

1 TOWN OF GRAND CHUTE
PARK COMMISSION

Minutes
January 9, 2012

Present: Petersen, Ward, VanBuecken, Feest, Boeckers, Hagen

Absent: Haag

Also Present: Susan Sykes (Citizen), Brian Olesen (Citizen), Sup. Thyssen (TB Liaison), Kevin Vonck (Special Projects/Grants), Tom Marquardt, DPW

Chairman VanBuecken called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m.

Ward/Petersen moved approval of the November 7, 2011 minutes with two corrections.

MOTION CARRIED

Citizen Input: There was no citizen input. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of adding this item to the regular agenda.

REPORTS

Park Maintenance: The ice rink at Arrowhead has been put up. There has been no park vandalism during the past two months.

Greenways: The report from East Central Planning on the JJ Corridor Study will be presented Jan. 12. Commission members were encouraged to attend. Feest also reported that bridgework construction has begun, as well as improvement at the shooting range.

Parks/DPW: Mr. Marquardt reported that gates have been installed at the new trail segments, that the Lynndale Drive Trail will be bid out in January and completed simultaneously with the Lynndale Drive reconstruction, and that he is working to plan and coordinate the Liberty Commons Trail with private and public property owners, the county and WDNR. He also noted that there will be changes in the summer recreation program locations and that a more efficient reservation program for park/shelter reservations and summer program sign-up is being sought.

OLD BUSINESS

Lecker Park: The subcommittee's suggested plan for park development was reviewed by those present along with ideas regarding how to proceed with various aspects of the project. It was suggested that the Town Board be apprised of the commission's study of the proposed park, that the Community Development Director be asked to attend the next commission meeting to inform the commission of existing town plans and studies regarding the Lecker Park land, and that conceptual drawings by volunteers be submitted and viewed by the commission at the next meeting.

Room Tax: The study guide handout presented at the December meeting was reviewed. It was requested that the Town Administrator be asked to inform the commission as to the amount of the room tax revenue the town had received in the past five years and how it was allocated.

Park Promotion and Marketing: The chairman shared an e-mail with the commission members stating that this subject would be addressed at the coming Town Board Strategic Planning meeting and thanked the commission for its interest in this project.

Wish Lists for Parks: Ideas for projects for the parks were discussed. Some examples were further work on the butterfly garden at Prairie Hill Park, building an equipment shed there, development of a theme trail, an area park consortium, inspecting playground and safety aspects of parks with the addition of new and additional handicapped accessible equipment.

Members are encouraged to continue to bring and share their “wish list” for parks.

Five Year Plan: The chairman stated work on the new Five Year Plan would be tabled until more work had been done regarding Lecker Park and the issues related to the Room Tax.

NEW BUSINESS

Website Development: Kevin Vonck showed the commission recent changes and improvements in the Town Website. The commission will continue to bring change ideas regarding parks to those town employees who are working to revise the website.

Patriot Park Play Equipment: The chairman stated that the concerned citizens who visited on November 7 are invited to bring specific suggestions to the commission. It was suggested that Mike Arft be contacted to assess the safety and appropriateness of the equipment at Patriot Park and inform the commission in this regard.

TOWN BOARD LIAISON

Mr. Thyssen discussed the park concerns of residents of Starview, Serenity and Butterfly Fields neighborhoods and stated that he would summarize the Town Board Strategic Planning Session at the next commission meeting.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

There was no Chairman’s Report.

CORRESPONDENCE:

E-mail from Mr. March to the Chairman, handout of citizens concerns regarding parks in Starview, Serenity and Butterfly Fields neighborhoods.

NEXT MEETING/AGENDA

The next Park Commission meeting will be held Monday, February 6, at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. On the agenda will be usual reports, further discussion regarding Lecker Park, Room Tax, Website Development, Park Promotion, the report on Town Board Strategic Planning.

Boeckers/Petersen moved adjournment at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Martha Ward, Secretary
Grand Chute Park Commission