

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes
City of Mount Vernon
September 20, 2016 - City Hall

The Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation Board met on September 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Rory Wiebel, Mike Cranston, Loren Hoffman and Catherine Poduska. Absent: Lori Boren. Also in attendance: Parks and Recreation Director, Matt Siders and Dennis Goemaat with Linn County Conservation

1. Approval of the Agenda. Motion made by Hoffman, seconded by Poduska to approve agenda. Carried all. Boren absent.
2. Approval of the Minutes from August 16, 2016. Motion made by Poduska, seconded by Wiebel to approve. Carried all. Boren absent.
3. Open Forum: Each citizen is limited to 5 minutes.
4. Directors Report. There were 61 dogs in attendance at the dog swim with \$402 being raised. The impact on the filters was significant but nothing that couldn't be taken care of with degreaser. Thank you to Sarah Fried and Katey Sanders for organizing the event. Now that the pool is closed there will attention focused on some leaks. Siders traveled to Osage, Waukon, Oelwein, Manchester and Peosta to visit their community centers and how their operations functioned. Siders will look into additional ways to communicate with the public regarding the pool closing policy.
5. Presentation from Linn County Conservation. Deputy Director of Linn County Conservation, Dennis Goemaat, was in attendance to inform the board about the Linn County Water and Land Legacy Bond. Over the past three years the conservation board has been engaged in master planning and strategic planning. In late 2015 the board approved new master plans for Squaw Creek, Morgan Creek and Pinicon Ridge Parks. That started a discussion about resource needs within the parks as well as the opportunities within the parks and how to pay for them. The board commissioned the Trust for Public Lands to do a feasibility study to look at legal ways to raise funds within Iowa to do those kinds of projects. On July 25, 2016 the conservation board passed a resolution requesting the Board of Supervisors to put the question for a bond on a special election ballot in the fall. If passed, the Board of Supervisors lets the bond at a public meeting and the funds would go to the conservation board to expend. This could open the door for potential projects that Mount Vernon would like to complete, such as trails. The impact to the average homeowner would be just under \$27 per year.
6. Discussion regarding new logo for P&R Shirts. Siders provided the board with samples from Barnyard Screenprinting. A logo on the front and number on the back is the format that Siders prefers and the board agreed. Everyone agreed that the regular City logo was not appropriate for Parks and Recreation but could maybe use the same font as the City logo in the Parks and Recreation logo. No decision was made and discussion will continue.

7. Discussion regarding names of parks/parkland. Hoffman provided the board with a map of potential areas for naming. Certain areas could possibly be named after the subdivision in which they are located or after the name of a particular property owner. Hoffman felt it would be beneficial to have a historian take a look at the areas and provide some input.
8. Subcommittee reports (Parks, Capital, Pool, Programming, and Volunteer). Siders met with Wiebel after the last meeting to discuss the Capital Improvements Plan and focused on trails at various parks and safe connections. The will focus on coming up with a priority list for discussion at the next meeting. Other items discussed for the CIP are Davis Park lighting, Davis Park restroom and concession stand, Bryant Park parking, adding a restroom to Memorial Park, pool parking lot overlay, additional playground equipment at Elliott Park, lighting for Elliott Park, pool renovations, park development at Stoner Park, land acquisition NE of Elliott and a new Gator. There will be an end of season pool report at the next meeting.
9. Old Business.
10. New Business. Diana Crowley with Zoe's Pet Deli will possibly be doing another fundraiser for the dog park in October.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marsha Dewell, Deputy Clerk.