

Mandan Park District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
November 13, 2017

The Board of Park Commissioners duly met in regular session on Monday, October 9, 2017 at Ed "Bosch" Froehlich Meeting Room, City Hall. Those present were President Arenz, , Commissioner Hatzenbuhler, Commissioner Meschke and Commissioner McPherson. Vice President Knoll was absent.

President Arenz called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 pm, CDT. President Arenz asked for approval of the minutes for the October 9, 2017 regular meeting. Motion was made Commissioner Meschke, seconded by Commissioner Hatzenbuhler. Motion passes.

**Public Hearing on Lil Haven Park:**

President Arenz explained the that the Park Board of Commissioners and staff take an annual tour of park facilities and assess the needs of park property. President Arenz stated that there has been no decision on the park. Director Higlin stated that we mailed out 250 letters to residents within the area of the park to inform them of the meeting. President Arenz opened the public hearing from area residents and thanked them for their attendance.

- Chuck Marthaller has lived near the park for over 40 years and stated that once the park is gone, there is no longer a park in the area. Mr. Marthaller would like to see the park remain.
- Steve Van Dyke is the adjacent property owner to the park and would be interested in acquiring the park if the Park Commissioners are interested in closing the park. Mr. Van Dyke has lived next door to the property since 1985 and would like to make improvements to the area for a larger garden, irrigation system, and other amenities to improve the property.
- Danita Engel spoke that they purchased their home in 2013 because of the micro park where there daughter could play across from their house. She would like to see the park remain in place.
- Matt Engel also supported keeping the park and that larger communities are looking at constructing micro parks and we already have one.

President Arenz closed the hearing. President Arenz stated that we are not making a decision tonight, but we will be in contact with you as to the next steps and when a decision will be made.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Item # 1: Update on the Starion Sports Complex:**

- Director Higlin stated that the facility is 98% up and running as little items are on the punch list to be completed. Overall the facility doesn't have any major issues that impact patron usage. Dakota Star Gymnastics held their ribbon cutting event on Saturday, November 11 and was a successful event. Director Higlin would like to have a special meeting in the future to get direction on the Faris Field improvement in relation to sales tax funds and the upcoming Memorial Ballpark improvements.

**Item # 2: Update on Memorial Ballpark Renovation Committee:**

Director Higlin presented the revised construction budget from last months committee meeting. The total preliminary cost summary is \$1,283,735 for turf and fees, wing replacement is \$1,218,593 for a total base bid summary of \$2,502,328. Director Higlin requested board approval of the construction cost summary to allow consultants to proceed with construction docs and to meet our bid timeline. Commissioner Hatzenbuhler requested that the Baseball Club provide status updates to fundraising efforts.

Motion by Commissioner Meschke to approve a \$2.5 million ballpark construction budget and to allow consultants to proceed with preparing with construction documents and bid information. Seconded by Commissioner McPherson; roll call vote motion passes 4-0.

**Item # 3: Update on the All Seasons Arena:**

Director Higlin stated that there wasn't much to report as demolition work has been completed and mechanical improvements are continuing to take place. Steel delivery is expected to happen after Thanksgiving and then installation will take place with improvements and painting.

**New Business:**

**Item # 1: Grant Sundquist request for support of BNSF train bridge preservation:**

Mr. Sundquist provided an overview of trying to preserve an historical train bridge that currently traverses the Missouri River. He would like to see our Park District provide verbal support without financial expectations toward the project. He feel both park district on both side of the river are integral stake holders to help secure the bridge for pedestrians, festivals, and many other items. President Arenz thanked Mr. Sundquist for his efforts and agree that there are a lot of unanswered questions and we are willing to wait and hear about future meetings and responses from the other entities before providing verbal support.

Authorization of payment of the monthly bills. Motion was made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Meschke. Motion passes.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was at approximately 6:40pm. Motion made by Commissioner McPherson, seconded by Commissioner Meschke. Motion passes.

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Cole Higlin  
Clerk, Mandan Park District

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Jason Arenz  
President, Board of Park Commissioner