

MINUTES PARK & TREE BOARD MEETING

APRIL 2, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Matt Dickhausen at 12:00 p.m. Members present were John Wimmer, Deb Michalski, Alicia LaBeau, Jerome Feigum, and Len Gilmore. Jonathan Truwe was absent. Advisory Members present were Ron Mergen, Public Works Director; and Lee Schleper, Maintenance Worker.

Motion was made by Gilmore to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2020 Park & Tree Board meeting. Seconded by Wimmer and unanimously carried.

HAND WASH STATIONS

The Board discussed if a hand wash station is necessary at the parks. It was suggested to make them available. The cost on a unit is approximately \$150.00; however, at this time they are back ordered until July. It was decided to install the stations at the major parks only and possibly outside City Hall.

Motion was made by Gilmore to order five hand washing stations not to exceed \$200.00 each and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Wimmer and unanimously carried.

KEEPING THE PARKS OPEN

It was questioned that with the COVID-19 pandemic should the City parks be opened. Several communities in the cities have closed their playground equipment off while others have posted signage informing users of the potential dangers. At this time, members suggested posting signage to inform users of the possible spread of COVID-19.

PARK COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Members discussed meeting at a different park each month over the summer, starting at Gazebo Park in May. This will give members a chance to tour and discuss each park in detail.

FISHING PIER

The pier has been ordered with a possible June delivery. There was some discussion on if the pier should be left in the water over winter or remove it to prevent ice damage. The site location was discussed along with handicap access to the pier.

ASH BORE

It was reported that the City has several hundred Ash trees in the parks and boulevards. It was discussed if the City should be removing the trees now or wait until the disease is here. If the City's waits, the City would be forced to remove the trees at a higher cost. It was suggested to start removing and replacing the Ash trees. It was also briefly discussed to have an incentive program for private Ash tree removal.

SPLASH PAD

The donation the City received from the Lions club was noted, the equipment was order and delivery is anticipated in the next several weeks.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.