

MINUTES
FORT MADISON PARKS, RECREATION & DOCK BOARD
REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2013
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 5:00PM
FORT MADISON, IOWA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tara Johnson, Mike Pulis, Jim Decker, Sheila Garcia,
Lauri Wondra, Council Liaison Brian Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jesus Garcia, Bobby Holtkamp

CITY STAFF PRESENT: John Luna, Dawn Helling

GUEST PRESENT: Sarah Clendineng

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Johnson at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Decker MOVED and Wondra SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2013 meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comments:

None

Old Business:

None

New Business:

- A. FORT MADISON LIBRARY TO INSTALL STORY WALK AT ONE OF CITY PARKS:** Sarah Clendineng, Fort Madison Public Library, shared the library would like to create a story walk. A picture book will be taken apart and mounted on sign posts with acrylic over it and vandalism proof screws then placed along a walking trail. While a person is walking they can read a book. This idea first started in Vermont. The library would provide books and the materials to make the stands. Each month the books will be changed. They would prefer to have it at Rodeo Park where there are more walkers but any park will be okay. Luna asked if people would walk the trails and read this as a group or on their own. Clendineng stated on their own. Johnson wanted to be clear on who would fund it. Clendineng stated the library would fund it all. Councilman Wright shared he thinks it would be easier for families with kids if it was at Central Park or Old Settlers Park. Luna agreed and shared it would be more visible at one of the two parks trails than Rodeo Park trail. Councilman Wright asked if there is a way to light them up. Clendineng stated she had not thought about that. Decker asked what kind of glass would be used for the cover. Clendineng said it would be acrylic. Decker shared bullet proof glass would be good and it is not very expensive. Garcia asked where the closest park was that has this. Clendineng stated there are none in Iowa and the closest one is in Ohio. Johnson stated she thinks there are more kids that frequent Old Settlers Park but wondered if the Old Settlers Association would be okay with this. Decker stated he was sure it would be fine. Councilman Wright thinks there would be more space at Central Park. Johnson suggested tabling this until a sub-committee could go to Old Settlers Park and Central Park and figure out which one would be the best.

Wondra MOVED and Pulis SECONDED to table the Fort Madison Library to Install Story Walk at One of City Parks until a sub-committee can go to Old Settlers Park and Central Park to decide which would be better. MOTION CARRIED.

- B. BOB FAHEY MEMORIAL SHELTER AT OLD SETTLERS PARK:** Jim Decker, Old Settlers Association, was speaking on behalf of Bev Fahey. He shared that before Bob Fahey passed away him and his wife had talked about wanting a new shelter at Old Settlers Park. After he passed, Bev decided to use the memorials to pay for a new shelter. It will be on the same slab the one is now. It will have a metal roof and electricity. They have started talking to Seither and Cherry about the possibility of building an enclosure at one end for storage and possibly putting a sink there. The sink would depend on if it has to drain to the sewer and how much it will cost. Decker stated they want it to be vandal free as much as possible so they would put up good lights with screen covers. It will be called, "Fahey Memorial Shelter".

Wondra MOVED and Pulis SECONDED to approve Bob Fahey Memorial Shelter at Old Settlers Park. MOTION CARRIED.

- C. FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS IN RIVERVIEW PARK:** November 29, 2013, Luna shared the Parade of Lights committee decided to alter from having a parade to only setting up floats in Riverview Park. On November 29, 2013, there will be a festival where they will have fireworks at each float as they acknowledge them. No one will be allowed to enter Riverview Park during the festival. Avenue H will be blocked from 2nd Street to 6th Street. Not many people are happy about this change. Johnson asked if the committee has contacted the railroad about it. Luna stated the committee said they would. He also shared every year WGEM would film the parade then broadcast it a couple of times after. This will be missed by many. Councilman Wright stated the change is because there is a lack of volunteers and it takes too much time to coordinate and put the floats together. He asked if there are going to be any police officers down there for this. Luna stated there will be.

- D. ESPN FISHING TOURNAMENT IN RIVERVIEW PARK:** May 29-31, 2014, Helling shared Jim Noll approached her with some possible dates for the tournament and when she called him about the dates he said these are definite. This tournament has been held in Fort Madison before with a very good turn-out. ESPN will supply everything but may ask for some volunteers. This tournament will attract a lot of fishermen.

Pulis MOVED and Decker SECONDED to approve ESPN Fishing Tournament in Riverview Park, May 29-31, 2014. MOTION CARRIED.

- E. ELIMINATE HALF DAY RENTALS FOR SHOPTON AND RODEO ENCLOSED SHELTERS:** Helling shared people are able to rent these shelters either half day or for the full day. It has caused some problems, especially if a shelter is rented for the first half of the day and not cleaned properly by the renters then rented by someone else the second half of the day. The parks department does not work on the weekends so if the person who rents it the first half of the day does not clean after themselves the mess will be there for the ones renting it after. Wondra and Garcia wondered if people would be less apt to rent them and business would be lost by doing this. Luna shared he did not believe so.

Garcia MOVED and Wondra SECONDED to approve Eliminating Half Day Rentals for Shopton and Rodeo Enclosed Shelters. MOTION CARRIED.

- F. FEE OPTION FOR SHOPTON AND RODEO ENCLOSED SHELTERS:** Helling shared it would be beneficial to give the same option for these shelters as the Riverview Pavilion. The person would pay the deposit then have the option of renting the shelter for one day or paying a higher price and have it from Friday morning till Sunday at noon. The prices would be doubled for the full weekend rental.

Wondra MOVED and Decker SECONDED to approve a rental option for Shopton Shelter of all day Friday through 12:00 p.m. on Sunday for a rate of \$180.00 with a \$50.00 deposit and for Rodeo Enclosed at a rate of \$130.00 with a \$35.00 deposit. MOTION CARRIED.

Directors Report: Luna shared City Manager Byron Smith would like the Parks Board to have a Special Meeting so he can share the Bond Issue. This will be held on November 14, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Helling will send out an email reminder the day before.

Helling shared at the last meeting she was asked to inquire if the marina in Burlington allows boat lifts in the slips. She called the marina and they do allow lifts but would not share how much they charge.

Garcia MOVED and Decker SECONDED a motion to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED and the meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Tara Johnson, Chairperson