

**MINUTES  
PARK BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 20, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Akenson, Josephson, Koster, Lee, Lombardi, Sinclair; Town Board Supervisor: Ruzek; Public Works Director: Reed; Planner: Riedesel

Absent: Reeves with notice

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Additions/Deletions):** Koster moved approval of the agenda as submitted. Josephson seconded. Ayes all.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 16, 2020:** Koster moved the approval of the minutes of January 16, 2020. Lee seconded. Ayes all.

**TOWNSHIP DAY / MOVIE IN THE PARK:** Lisa Beecroft was present to report on Movie in the Park and Township Day updates. She started reaching out to potential movie hosts and has seen definite interest; Children's Performing Arts, for example. Before next meeting she was going to send out formal emails with dates in stone so potential hosts can choose a date and have input on the movies. Beecroft will bring movie ideas to the April meeting. There was some discussion of marketing areas for the Movies in the Park.

Beecroft discussed a few bands and gave updates on the search. Ember Island students are going to college, but she stated she would reach out to see if the members knew of anyone looking for a gig. Joey Flip performed a harmonica lesson 2 years prior in the late afternoon. The Teddy Bear Band is expensive. There was some discussion of having a band perform for 1 hour only, as that would most likely cost less. Beecroft will pursue the ideas discussed and report back in March. There was also discussion for bands for the main stage. Beecroft will update the Board on her findings next month.

There was some discussion of reaching out to the Boy Scouts or Lions to volunteer for parking or recycling duty. There was some discussion on vendors and the pricing sheet attached in the packet. The price went up, but she noted it went up an even amount and now includes the fees instead of the fees being separate. The Park Board agreed that the increase made sense. There was some discussion over the political booths that will inevitably reach out. It was noted that Township Day only allows one booth for each political party.

MINUTES  
PARK BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 20, 2020

Beecroft noted that she is using the sponsorship letter from last year, but tweaked it to remain current. She showed the Park Board the updated letter, and is planning on sending those out soon. There was some discussion over planning and logistics. Beecroft is working on collecting certificates of insurance for pretty much every vendor. It was noted that Ramsey County has new licensing requirements with food vendors this year. Beecroft will work to make sure all of the planning and logistics are finished prior to the event. There was some discussion over marketing and publicity. Beecroft noted she could make an editorial calendar list for the *News and Views* section of the *White Bear Press*. Riedesel updated the Park Board on the Town Board's approval of allowing Clear Channel to update the billboard to electronic. This will help with marketing events, like Movies in the Park, in the future.

**POLAR LAKES PARK – RESTROOM DISCUSSION:** The Town Planner reported on the updates in regards to the restrooms at Polar Lakes Park. He handed out some designs and they were discussed. The Park Board liked the 6 unit restroom design: 2 stalls for men, 2 stalls for women, and 2 family restrooms on either side of the men's and women's rooms. There was some discussion on a drinking fountain. It was the consensus that there shouldn't be one because they are hard to maintain, they get stagnant, there already is a drinking fountain, and it is staff's preference to not have a drinking fountain. There will be future updates, especially as bids come in. There was some discussion on security and it was noted that security will be easier to maintain with the Ramsey County Sheriff's Substation at the Township Offices.

**BELLAIRE BEACH – UPDATE:** The Town Planner reported on the Utility Commission's decisions from February's meeting. The Commission has minor interest, encouraging the Park Board to look at other funding sources and grants, but would like more information as the process comes along. There was some discussion on what the County thinks, whether the County would help financially. It was noted that it is doubtful, but it is appreciative of the Township maintaining and improving the park. There was some discussion of the Lake Links meeting planned for March 31 from 3-8 p.m. at South Shore Trinity Church to gain public input and give information of future trail extension plans.

**ORGANICS DROP-OFF:** The Town Planner reported that Tamarack Nature Center didn't seem enthusiastic about having the Town's organics drop off site there. There was discussion of other potential locations for the organics drop off site. Staff pulled up a view of Google Earth as the Board suggested locations. One potential location is outside the Township Offices. There was discussion of either next to the Public Works building or next to Hammond Road in the parking lot of the Offices. Staff thought the measurements of the cement slab that the County would put in may go well there. It was the consensus that the Board would prefer the organics drop off site at Tamarack Nature Center, so staff will reach out again, especially since there are already dumpsters there. If Tamarack doesn't work, the Township Offices would be the second choice.

MINUTES  
PARK BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 20, 2020

**NORTHEAST TRAIL:** The Town Planner showed on Google Earth where the trail is going through to connect Deer Meadow Park through the Stable property. Staff is excited to move forward on this project. Staff have asked TKDA to put a proposal together. It is budgeted for this year. It was noted that it should be well used.

**COLUMBIA PARK – PARKING LOT:** The Town Planner reported that the parking lot for Columbia Park is slated for reconstruction this year. Two proposals were received: TKDA as a whole package proposal, and a Loucks proposal. Both are included in the package. There was discussion of the construction process and a map of Columbia Park was shown. The lot will be expanded, the islands will come out; it will house much more parking. It was noted that the Town Board will need a recommendation of how to proceed. There was discussion of each proposal and the consensus was that TKDA is the most affordable option ( not to exceed \$12,800), plus it is a start-to-finish project. It was the consensus that TKDA should try to fit as many additional parking spaces in as possible.

Akenson motioned to accept TKDA’s proposal. Koster seconded. Ayes all.

**DNR GRANT:** The Town Planner gave an update of the DNR grant that he had tried to obtain in 2019. This grant helps pay for playgrounds and last year there were less categories that the Township could apply on the grant. This year staff can apply for restroom aid, trail aid, and playground aid. It was noted that grant amounts up to \$250,000 may be available. For the grant application, staff will use the 10 unit restroom design. Staff is looking for Park Board support.

Josephson motioned to support the application for DNR grant funding. Sinclair seconded. Ayes all.

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT:** The Public Works Director reported on the Public Works Department Activity report for January 2020. Reed discussed all park projects. Staff will finish flooding rinks in the end of February. It was noted that overnight ice fishing houses must be off the lakes by the end of February. He noted some tree trimming and Ash tree removal. There was some discussion of the trail along County Road H2. There will be a meeting put on by Ramsey County in regards to their street improvement projects along H2, West Bald Eagle Boulevard, and Buffalo. There will be much discussion of the trail along the H2 corridor. There was some discussion of the Ramsey County ditch 11.

**ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** There were no added agenda items.

Lee moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Akenson seconded. Ayes all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan R. Cavanaugh  
Recording Secretary

**MINUTES  
PARK BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 20, 2020**