



Proceedings



of the BROWN CITY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD REGULAR MEETING

September 27, 2022

AT THE CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM 4205 MAIN STREET, BROWN CITY [810-346-2325]

Website: ci.brown-city.mi.us

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Present: Board Members: Tara Owens, Louis Martus, Ron Marion, Rick Mitchell, Stacey Biel, Sean Hagey and Matthew Taepke.

Absent: Board Member: Christine Lee.

Guests: Mayor Julie Miller, City Clerk Rhonda Johnson, and City Manager Clint Holmes, Mike Juip, Charles Bennett, Steve Kohler, Olivia Liebler, Phyllis Liebler, Kevin Miller, Amy Wheeler, Kenny Childers, Charlette Bobb, Brenda Martus, Rae Ann Kreiner, Rand John Kreiner, Jamie Bird, Kelsie Quandt, and Chad Dempsey.

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Ron Marion at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Regular Meeting August 23, 2022:

Motion by Stacy Biel, Second by Sean Hagey, to Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting on August 23, 2022 as written. Motion Carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by Sean Hagey, Second by Tara Owens, to Pay Bills from the Following Fund: Parks- \$12,845.96 (2967 - 2972). Motion Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Discussion:
 - a. Disc Golf organization using downed trees to mark trail edge.
 - b. Disc Golf organization requesting approval. Consensus to approve.
 - c. Board expressed appreciation of all the work Disc Golf organization is doing.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: None scheduled.

PUBLIC HEARING: None Scheduled.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Current balance: \$37,122.74 – (\$29,706.03 checking (includes \$3,200 in donations belonging to Park Board of Directors); \$7,416.71 operating.)
2. Next regular meeting: October 25,2022 at City Hall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **Trails (Mitchell):** Same as in Unfinished Business.
2. **Concession, Batting Cages, Bathrooms and Porta-Lets (Taepke):** Tara Owens asked for date of last activity and Port-a-lets winter removal.

Motion by Matt Taepke, Second by Tara Owens, to approve winter removal of Port-a-Lets after October 24. Motion Carried.

2. **Driveways & Parking Lots (Martus):** Working on more gravel for next spring to fix potholes. Discussion of the need to build up the road more. Mid-Michigan Gravel & Trucking Company donated 500 tons of gravel this year.

3. **Playground Equipment and Courts (Hagey):** Discussion of work carried out this year and more to be done next spring.
4. **Building Maintenance Committee (Owens / Martus):** Outside of Pool Pavilion is completed. East door needs replacing. Discussion of electrical work.

Motion by Louis Martus, Second by Sean Hagey, to replace east door of Pool Pavilion. Motion Carried.

5. **Events & Entertainment (Biel):** Sunday is Markets and More Fall Activity. Oct 22 Festival Fall Fun in the Park. 1 p.m. side by side run. 2-4 Trunk or Treat, 5-7 Chili Cook-off, 8-10 Spooky Trail.
6. **Utilities (Marion):** Discussion of WIFI on hold. Discussion of a need for documentation of electrical work being donated.
7. **Park & Recreation Grants (Hagey):** Discussion of plan is at DNR. DNR grant process starts in February. A copy of the plan was shared with Charles Bennett.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Revised Park Use and Liability Waiver forms. Tara Owens said 12 revised forms are completed. One form will need to be revised by Markets and More with their specific details.

Motion by Tara Owens, Second by Stacy Biel, to adopt 12 Park Use and Liability Waiver forms. Motion Carried.

2. Louis Martus asked for a financial statement that includes donors and donations.
3. Sean Hagey said National Honor Society will put tables away again this year.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

1. Steve Kohler said he had walnut trees to donate to the park, and he will work on drainage of ball fields if someone gets the tiles. He also said he is willing to help to fix the lights. He said he did not want any ball fields to be taken away.

Board Discussion of:

- a. Safety reasons for central parking.
 - b. Activity (festival) reasons for central parking.
 - c. Little League field requirements.
 - d. Blooper Ball Field history.
 - e. Fences at Blooper Ball Field in need of repair.
 - f. Board proposed plan was to take down fences and allow directed parking on the grass during large events.
 - g. Other areas for parking.
2. Rae Ann Kreiner said that her neighbors don't mind people parking in their driveways during park events. She said she loves seeing people using the park and that people want to help.
 3. Kelsie Quandt said that girls struggle to find fields to practice on. She said fields bring tournaments and tournaments are important.

Board Discussion of:

- a. Other options for parking.
 - b. The motion from the August meeting was to remove fencing on Blooper Ball field and allow parking in the outfield and not taking out any fields.
 - c. Discussion of reworking the Blooper Ball field to fit Little League specifications and use the outfield for parking.
4. Olivia Liebler, coach of 10 Youth Softball Team, said another option for parking could be moving playground equipment and using that location.
 5. Charles Bennett asked how parking is enforced in the park and what signage is there now or what is needed.

Motion by Stacy Biel, Second by Matt Taepke, to rescind the motion to remove light poles and fences from fields 4 and 5.

Roll Call Vote: Sean Hagey – yes, Matt Taepke – Yes, Louis Martus – No, Rick Mitchell – Yes, Stacy Biel – Yes, Ron Marion – Yes, Tara Owens – No. 5 – Yays, 2 – Nays, 0 – Absent, 0 – Abstaining. Motion Carried.

Motion by Stacy Biel, Second by Sean Hagey, to remove outfield fences and some side fencing from fields 4 and 5. Motion Carried.

Board Discussion of:

- a. Lights on fields 4 and 5 have not been working for a long time.
- b. Need for lights or not.
- c. Options for fixing or removing lights and poles.

6. Chad Dempsey, Burnside Township Supervisor, asked why lights have been not working for ten years and why hasn't any action been taken to fix them during all that time. He also asked why fences were not fixed in the past.

Board Discussion of:

- a. Policy of Park and Recreation Board to not discuss past action or non-action of the Park Board of Directors and to only focus on current issues and solutions.
- b. The Board expressed appreciation to all who took the time to come to the meeting and offer their opinions and possible options to address the parking issue.
- c. The Board encourages community members to attend Park and Recreation Board meetings and reminded people that all agendas and minutes are posted on the city website: ci.brown-city.mi.us

ADJOURN:

Motion by Sean Hagey, Second by Louis Martus, to Adjourn the September 27, 2022 meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Johnson
City Clerk