

January 3rd, 2022

The regular meeting of the Park and Recreation Board of the City of Seward, Nebraska, was held on Monday, January 3rd, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at Municipal Building, 142 N 7th Street. Members present: Randy Chapp, Brett Wobken, Jon Burhoop, Andrea Baack, Jim Placke, and Lacey Koch. Others in attendance: City Council Brett Smith, Assistant Recreation Director Adam Bode. Absent: Kelly Limback, Ken Schmieding and Justin Hartman.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in the following places: City Hall, County Courthouse, Seward Memorial Library, and Municipal Building. The availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted at this location for public inspection.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Randy Chapp.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Wobken, seconded by Koch that the minutes of October 4th, 2021 meeting be approved.

Aye: Chapp, Placke, Baack, Koch, Burhoop, Wobken

Nay: None

Absent: Hartman, Limback, Schmieding

2. Softball West outfield fence – Move 200ft instead of the 215 ft at the Softball Association cost, limited to no cost to City.

Presentation and support brought to the board by Shawn Carr, who is a member and coach in the Seward Softball Association. The request is to move the current fence line that is at 215ft to 200ft and to get rid of the temporary fence. The movement of the fence would then solidify a true softball field. Coach Carr stated that the cost to set the new posts and put up the fence would be at no cost to the city. He has donations that would take care of the cost. However, the only cost would be for the City to help dispose of the old fence. Currently, there is no one field that is designated for softball only in town. All fields that house softball games are noted as multi-use fields.

Bob and Adam told Coach Carr to bring it to the board to discuss. Supporters of this proposed updated are Seward Softball Association, Concordia College, Seward Jr. Jays and Carr felt that the Rec department supported the update, too. Adam stated that there is no true city benefit but, in the discussion, it was stated that there is a field for baseball (Plum Creek Baseball Field) that because of maintenance is not ever used for multi-use or for tournaments. The west field would be and could be used for all age

divisions right now even for baseball tournaments, and all levels; however, if the fence was moved in the only age group that could be eliminated would potentially be 11 and up baseball. It was noted that the setup of the field the likelihood of games ever wanting to be hosted on this field for this age group is extremely slim because the baseline would be in the grass. This field was designed to be a softball field but the fence line was set to 215ft. Baack noted that if we wait longer, we maybe waiting like we did for the lights that never happened over Plum Creek and never acting when we have someone that is willing to donate with minimal to no costs to the City. Further discussion continued and noted that the desire be that there is another year of evaluation on if there would be a loss of opportunity if the field fence was moved in, Placke recommended that we wait another season to evaluate again later. There was no vote or motion.

3. Election of Officers

Nominated for President, Randy Chapp – No other nominations were made, unanimously approved by the board in attendance. Chapp accepted.

Nominated for Vice President, Andrea Baack – No other nominations were made, unanimously approved by the board in attendance. Baack accepted.

Nominated for Secretary, Kelly Limback – No other nominations were made; however, due to not being in attendance, the board recommended we table the nomination to ensure acceptance and accountability.

Motion by Koch and seconded by Baack that we table further elections and nomination until we have additional members present and all members are still on the board. Recommended discussing at our next meeting. Motion carried.

Aye: Chapp, Placke, Baack, Koch, Burhoop, Wobken

Nay: None

Absent: Hartman, Limback, Schmeiding

At 6:45 p.m., motion made by Placke, seconded by Burhoop to adjourn the meeting.

Aye: Chapp, Placke, Baack, Koch, Burhoop, Wobken

Nay: None

Absent: Hartman, Limback, Schmeiding

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2022 and should be held at 5:30 PM at Municipal Building, 142 N 7th Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Baack