

**CITY OF HANOVER
PARK BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 24, 2017 – OFFICIAL MINUTES**

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Mat Boie called the Park Board meeting of January 24, 2017 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chair Mat Boie, Tom Gleason, Abby Peterson, Jeff Grupp, Council Liaison Jim Zajicek, and City Accountant/Deputy Clerk Elizabeth Lindrud. Guests present were Stephanie Gleason, Michael Kehn, and Dee Zajicek. Strehlow was absent.

New Member Introductions and Oath of Office

The Oath of Office was stated by Boie and Grupp.
Grupp was welcomed by the Park Board.

Selection of Officers

Peterson nominated Mat Boie for the position of Chair, accepted by Boie. Boie nominated Abby Peterson for the position of Vice Chair, accepted by Peterson. Boie is appointed 2017 Chair and Peterson appointed Vice Chair.

Approval of Agenda:

Boie added item 8d – Bike Rodeo, Gleason added item 8e – Float the Crow and item 8f – Safety of Settlers Park, and item 8g – Zoomobile.

MOTION by Peterson to approve the amended Agenda, seconded by Boie. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Approval of Minutes from November 22, 2016 Meeting

MOTION by Gleason to approve the minutes from November 22, 2016, seconded by Peterson. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Open Forum:

Michael Kehn

Michael Kehn introduced himself as the President of the Historical Society and handed out packets of information to each Park Board Member related to the Settler's Park Ballfield redesign. He explained that he was surprised to see that the ballpark redesign was not listed under old business, as there has been a change in the funding plan. He stated the first document in the information packet was a copy of the initial resolution approving the lease agreement with the Hanover Athletic Association, he explained that one issue has been that the Hanover Athletic Association never made their intent clear. The next document is the complaint that Kehn filed with the Minnesota Gambling Board and noted the section on gender equalization, there is no mention of a girl's league for the ballfield redesign. Kehn also included the Hanover Athletic Association's proposal for the December 19th meeting with the Minnesota Gambling Board. He stated the Board recommended denial of 44% of the funds and half an hour before the meeting was to start the Hanover Athletic Association withdrew their request. Kehn explained that the Hanover Athletic Association has since voted to terminate the lease agreement with the City after only one month. Kehn also included a document from the League of Minnesota about liability, with the termination of the lease agreement, the liability will be on the City. He stated that scheduling men's baseball that close to a playground is dangerous and the City owes due of care to protect children from flying balls. Kehn stated the Hanover Athletic Association voted to give a free will donation of \$50,000 to the City and the City could do a lot to the parks with that money. He recommends that Council not go through with this plan.

Kehn stated that Historical Society is still interested in working with the Park Board on a Veteran's Grove. He has gotten verbal support from the veteran's groups in Hamel, Monticello, and St. Michael.

Stephanie Gleason

Stephanie Gleason stated she would like to talk about the Comp Plan updates, she explained that only the Planning Commission and City Council are providing input on the Comp Plan updates. She stated at one meeting it was stated that public input should be included and that hundreds of residents are concerned with the planning of Hanover. She explained that now that the Settlers Park Ballfield will be back to a City Park, not leased to the Hanover Athletic Association, the Board needs to figure out what Hanover residents want.

Gleason also stated that she found the appointment of Jeff Grupp over Colleen Williams an odd choice. She explained Williams was previously on the Board and has small children who use the parks every day, where Grupp is an older white male with older children. She further went on to state there is on Board member who is no longer a Hanover resident and one more who is

planning to sell their home soon. Gleason further explained that if the trees are removed that area can no longer be used by other groups.

Peterson stated that she is selling her home someday and the Board has three men and two women, it will never be an equal amount of men and women with five members.

Grupp stated that he does have adult children, but he takes his grandchildren to the park when they visit. He also explained that he helped develop a park when living in Brooklyn Park and helped develop the park in the Bridges neighborhood. He further explained that he is very open minded and does not make his decisions based on personal views.

Unfinished Business:
None

New Business:
Ice Skating Event

Boie would like to have a family ice skating event at the Hanover Athletic Association Ice Rink. He will look into which days would have open ice time. The Board agreed to a tentative date of either Friday, February 24th in the evening or from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday February 25th. Once Mat confirms the time and date, Lindrud will advertise the event on the City social media page and website.

Easter Egg Hunt

Peterson stated that Strehlow had volunteered to head up the Easter Egg Hunt. The event will be Saturday, April 15 and start at 10 a.m. Liaison Zajicek stated he requested that the Easter Egg supplies be brought down so the Board can do a quick inventory. The Easter Eggs are in storage and the Board does have a new Bunny Suit.

Concert in the Park

Peterson asked if anyone else had an idea for a different band. She was already contacted by the White Sidewalls and they will charge the same \$1,600 as in the past. They are already booked for June 15th. Lindrud stated that June 22nd the Girl Scouts have their camp at Settlers Park. The Board stated that Peterson can check with Lindrud in the morning and book for either the 8th or the 29th. Peterson stated she will arrange for the stage from Miller Trucking as she has in the past.

Bike Rodeo

Boie stated that FYCC organizes the bike rodeo now instead of Allina. St. Michael has one in May and Albertville in September. Boie explained that he has a call into Sandy at FYCC for more details.

Float the Crow

Gleason would like to do an event on the Crow River, have people meet in Rockford and float down to Hanover. Discussion took place around how to coordinate vehicles or the possibility of having a hay wagon for transportation similar to Harvest Festival, Lindrud also stated there could be liability issues and she will check into those. It was also discussed to have people bring hot dogs to grill afterwards or have a food truck come in. The event could take place near the end of July in the afternoon, possibly from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m..

Safety of Settlers Park

Gleason inquired what the plans are for the safety at Settlers Park with the ballfield redesign. Liaison Zajicek explained that different ideas have been discussed to keep the playground safe. Fencing and netting options will need to be priced out. He stated that Council is fully aware of the safety concerns and will be looking at what options are available.

Zoomobile

Gleason inquired if the Board would like the Zoomobile to return, the Board would like it to come back. Lindrud stated the Shelter has been reserved for the Zoomobile for Wednesday, July 19th at 7 p.m..

Reports:

Peterson

- Stated that if the City were to create a Veteran's Memorial, she would like it to be up front where it would be more visible.

Boie

- Reached out to Stan with the Hanover Athletic Association to introduce himself and explore how the Park Board and Hanover Athletic Association can work together.

Lindrud

- Stated that the \$25,000 levied to the Park Capital Funds will be used to fund the addition of curbing to Settlers Park Playground and Pheasant Run Playground.
- The Hanover Athletic Association did change the funding of the Settlers Park Ballfield redesign and terminate the lease agreement with the City. The next step will be for Council to receive the donation and the written lease termination.

Adjournment:

MOTION to adjourn by Grupp to adjourn at 8:25 p.m., seconded by Gleason. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Lindrud, Accountant/Deputy Clerk