

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES – February 28th, 2023 - 5:00 P.M.
ISANTI COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
555 18th Ave SW, CAMBRIDGE, MN 55008

Voting Members Present: Whitey Redfield, Luke Merrill, Adam Curtis, Lee Kingsbury, Carol Urness, Susan Blom, Jamieson Baldwin-Schaffer, Bill Berg
Voting Members Absent: Wayne Anderson, Bob Shogren
Staff Present: Barry Wendorf

A. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Vice Chair Susan Blom.

Merrill motioned, Kingsbury seconded to approve the meeting agenda. **Motion carried.**

B. Minutes – Berg motioned, seconded by Merrill, to approve meeting minutes of January 24th, 2023.
Motion carried.

C. Budget Report – Merrill motioned, Kingsbury seconded to approve the January Budget Report. **Motion carried.**

D. Bills and Invoices – Curtis motioned, Urness seconded to pay 14 bills totaling \$2,381.65 for the month of February. **Motion carried.**

E. Director's Report

1. Programs & Events – The Snowshoeing event at Anderson Park on Feb 4th did not have a lot of participation. Next year we will be able to offer free skis and snowshoe use through the Legacy Grant. Dates for the Spring Bird Hike and Fall Festival were verified.
2. Park Maintenance Lead – Ryan Gerth was approved as a full-time employee starting February 23rd. He is working on equipment maintenance, plowing, grooming, and special projects.
3. Park Equipment Maintenance – Ryan has been changing filters, fluids, and parts on the UTV, Mowers, Tractor, Saws, and Trailers.
4. Natural & Scenic Area Grant Application – Working on application to purchase Urness Property.
5. MNDOT ATP3 Grant Applications – Parks Director is a District 3 Member and reviewed and scored 14 applications for funding Alternative Transportation requests.
6. Park Visitor Numbers through January 2023 were reported.

F. Other Business

1. Emerald Ash Borer – The Emerald Ash Borer has been discovered in South Western Isanti County. Areas south of Highway 95 are in quarantine meaning they are not allowed to move wood products outside of the area. Further information is posted on the Isanti County website.
2. Legacy Park Grant Projects – We have a contract for Phase I Archaeology Survey at Anderson Park. This must be completed before a contract is signed with the DNR.
3. Isanti County Environmental Newsletter – The first edition is soon to be printed. The focus of the first newsletter is on recycling but the following editions will include a section on Parks.
4. Comprehensive Land Use Plan – the Isanti County Zoning Office will be completing an updated plan in 2023. This is a great opportunity to provide input on the future direction of Isanti County. The first Steering Committee Meeting is March 1st.
5. Per Diems

G. Next Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, March 28th, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.

H. Merrill motioned, Redfield seconded to adjourn meeting at 6:36 pm. **Motion carried.**

Submitted by, Barry Wendorf - Isanti County Parks Director