



**East Moline Park Board
Minutes
January 11, 2016**



Stombaugh called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the East Moline City Annex Conference Room.

Present: Ald. Almlade, T Berg, , C.Braggs, R. Cervantes, E. Gay, B.Stombaugh, Ald. Westbrook.(Alternate)

Absent: B.Anderson , Z Bergland, W. Verschoore

Guests: Dave Lambrecht, Marcy O'Brien

Secretary's Report: November minutes reviewed. Berg moved to approve minutes, seconded by Cervantes, all in favor, the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: No report

Reports from Partnering Organizations:

- 1) Marcy O'Brien announced she was concerned about November minutes with the discussion of land lease agreement with users of Jacobs Park. She advised that there was a loose affiliation with the City that works well and the basics are tied to an existing contract with the City. The Youth baseball league contract is very similar to soccer. She advised they need EM support for their work on mowing, garbage removal, repairs, and winterizing. She pointed out that Soccer league uses their own revenue to fertilize, grub worm control, fix concession problems, minor repairs, make improvements like field sprinkler system, clean bathrooms, pays electric and water bills. Mowing is huge issue and investigated a contract service to cut fields shorter before games. Determined quotes were too high. Looking at using soccer revenues to purchase smaller mower for field playing area. Almlade advised that request was made for legal advice on options available but has not heard anything.

Old Business

1. Park Inspections Sheets : Berg asked status of inspection reports. She expressed the lack of response and followup to items to items she felt were major safety concerns. Evaluations were performed in mid October. Lambrecht to send out summary spread sheet of items of concern and checklist of action items. Cervantes is concerned about condition of heavily used equipment in Jacobs Park. Painting would help a lot in appearance.
2. Park Closures: Berg expressed desire for a very methodical approach to insure all options and consequences are considered. Stated that closures would have a major effect on many residents, both those who travel to use the parks and those living nearby.. Almlade to investigate legal ramifications of closing a park. Almlade did study on Wyman park and if park was closed, sold, and a \$1.2 million condo complex was built, EM would receive about \$8,600.00 in tax revenue. Other benefits would be the initial sale of land that could go to improvements of other parks, no liability to EM, and maintenance employee man-hours could be utilized elsewhere. Almlade questioned value of losing a park for \$8,600.00/yr. Westbrook pointed out that EM would still be going from a marginally maintained park with questionable use to a positive cash flow. Lambrecht was asked for information on park usages, rental history
Possibility of proposing Special Service Assessment (SSA) is still an option. Creation of a Park District with its own tax dollars is another option available. There was a discussion in maintenance employee duties in summer and winter, hours mowing. Lambrecht provided an overview. Maintenance Records/man hours of individual parks are not kept.
3. Adopt a Park membership update: Lambrecht to send list.

New Business

- 1) Adopt A Park appreciation dinner: It was discussed that a dinner for volunteers be on April 19th, 5:30 pm, at East Pointe Center. Motion made by Almlade, seconded by Cervantes, all approved. The Park Board meeting would be held following dinner. February meeting will discuss advertising campaign for unassigned parks and food assignments.

Cervantes moved and Berg seconded motion to adjourn, motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:40pm.

The next meeting is February 16, 2016 at 6:30 pm at EM City Annex Conference Room.
Minutes by Secretary Ald. Almblade