

**MELROSE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.
SAUK RIVER PARK 206 5TH AVENUE NE**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Reports
 - a. Community Development Report
5. Action Items
6. Old Business
 - a. Tree Program
7. New Business
 - a. 2024 Budget
 - b. Other Park Additions and Amenities
 - c. Turf Request
 - d. Board and Commission Member Appointments
8. Informational Items
9. Adjournment

NEXT MEETING DATE – October 25, 2023

**MELROSE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.**

A.I. #1 CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Melrose Parks and Recreation Board met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Sauk River Park located at 206 5th Avenue NE pursuant to due notice being given thereof. Present were Board Members Justin Frieler, Craig Schiffler, Dave Berscheit, Lindsey Chmielewski, Streets/Parks Supervisor Gary Middendorf, and Community Development Director Sheila Hellermann. Due to Sara Hoffner's resignation from MADA there is a vacant seat. Chair Frieler called the meeting to order.

A.I. #2 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Berscheit, seconded Mr. Schiffler and unanimously carried that the agenda be approved as submitted.

A.I. #3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Chmielewski, seconded by Mr. Berscheit and unanimously carried that the minutes from the Board's May 31, 2023, Regular Meeting, be approved as presented.

A.I. #4 REPORTS

The Community Development Director provided an update on Kwik Trip and Riverside Flats construction. The closing on the sale of Railroad West will take place on Monday, August 28, or Tuesday, August 29, 2023. The advertisement for bids have been let for the County Road 168 sidewalk project.

A.I. #5 ACTION ITEMS

None

A.I. #6 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. The city needs more trees. Ideas are sought about a possible program of sponsorship or fundraising for trees around the city. We had good success with the fire rings (specific items) rather than a golf tournament. Comments have been received regarding more shade in the Sauk River Park campground. Justin Frieler thought perhaps with the fire ring donations and bench program perhaps another sponsorship program may be too much. Dave Berscheit suggested just purchasing trees using park funds.

A.I. #7 NEW BUSINESS

- a. On Thursday, August 24, 2023, the Council will be reviewing the 2024 budget. Park Board input is sought about budget planning related to parks and trails. Park and Recreation Board Member Frieler recommended requesting an increase from \$20,000 to \$30,000 annually. The board would also like to ask for the ability to spend \$10,000 without council approval.

- b. Park Board toured the Sauk River Park, including the (almost) complete restroom. Input is sought about next steps.
- Discussion about remaining LCCMR grant requirements (educational signage, fishing).
 - Discussion about other possible additions. Ideas which have been brought up include pickleball, dog park, horseshoe area, volleyball.
 - Discussion about things like speed limit signs, handling parking/possible signage, garbage area, posts and chains, biking path, shrubs and trees, and a possible paver stone project near the basketball court.

A comment was received from an onsite camper that the sites need to be longer. It was suggested to extend the campsites by 10 feet. It was suggested that a park space for approximately 5 vehicles be constructed. It was also recommended that speed bumps be installed to slow down the traffic. Board Member Schiffler recommended volleyball court and horseshoe pits. It has also been recommended to install pickleball courts. Director Hellermann noted that there are grants available for pickleball courts. She will look into making an application. Board Member Chmielewski suggested concrete bean bag. A dog park was also mentioned. It was determined to install a fence around the garbage area. It was also mentioned regarding a possible paver stone project. The Board was supportive of the idea. Staff will look into the size of pavers and cost of the project.

- c. The Melrose Area School District has made a request that the city consider artificial turf for the soccer field in the park, so it remains playable during dry spells.

The Board by consensus opposed the installation of artificial turf on the soccer field in the Sauk River Park.

- d. We currently have an opening on the MADA board, and 3 applicants. When there are multiple applications to boards and commissions, do we want an interview process or feedback from the board or commission itself, rather than just having the Council appoint someone? We are seeking feedback/ideas going forward.

This has been addressed by City Attorney Dymoke. It is the responsibility of the mayor and council to appoint members to the various boards and commissions.

A.I. #8 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- a. The next Parks and Rec Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 2023.

A.I. #9 ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Berscheit seconded by Mr. Schiffler and unanimously carried that the meeting be adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

PATRICIA HAASE – CITY CLERK