

**Jackson Park Board Meeting 5:30 p.m. @ City Hall
February 9th, 2021**

In attendance: Larry Anderson, Michael Haeffner, Phil Markman, Neal Carlson, Lynne Anderson, Matt Skaret, Jennifer Eicholz.

Online via Zoom: Luke Ewald, Mike Gruhlke, Mike Gilbert

Agenda Items:

Ashley Park Shelter House:

- We are looking at opening up to 25% capacity for residents/visitors to use.
- We have some concerns that individuals would exceed the 25% capacity if they have larger gatherings that we are not aware of.
- Matt will check with the League of MN Cities and Brad Anderson (Jackson City Attorney); it will also be discussed with the city council.
- More discussion will take place at the next meeting after discussion with the city council.

Memorial Update

- An individual contacted Matt Skaret about doing a memorial for a deceased family member. The preferred location would be by the old ice skating rink.
- Matt offered her Alternative ideas would be preferred than benches as our parks and trails are starting to get a little filled up with them.
- Will wait to see if family comes up with other ideas
- Explore adding a picnic table on old cement slab; people would use that for lunches— nice shade and pretty location.

Central & Zimmerli Park Update

- Matt shared an update from Safety First; Matt suggested that we'll have to get creative on financing if we do #1. Maybe something that might work better in one of our larger, more heavily used parks? #2 is too far out the budget. #3 is a little bit of stretch financially. #4 is a possibility. The installation price is what hurts the most on all of these. Below is an email sent by Safety First:
- Trying to get a play structure under the \$20k budget, installed, with a containment area is pretty challenging. So, I'm sending you a few ideas to see what direction the city would like to go.
- [THIS](#) structure is the most cost effective structure I can find that would meet your needs. Retail is \$19k, we'd need about \$12k more for installation and containment area.

Overall, it is a pretty good deal and has three slides! This is a sale structure, so the price goes up after June 30th, 2021.

- [THIS](#) structure is a little larger and more exciting, Miracle Recreation 714-S648J. The sale price is ~\$27 and we'd need to add freight, containment, installation onto that. We'd be looking at about \$45k once it was all said and done.
- Finally, [THIS](#) fitness structure is manufactured by BYO recreation (this is the same manufacturer we used on the tot area at Riverside park in Springfield. We've installed this a number of times and seems to be pretty popular for kids that are a little younger. Not quite so exciting for 10 year olds, but would be a good fit for that 5-7 YO age group. Retail for this is ~\$15k (doesn't include freight), and we'd be looking at about \$26k when it was all said and done.
- If you'd really like to stay under that \$20k amount, including installation, etc. I'd recommend we look at adding a tire swing or disc swing (see this [HERE](#)) with a merry go round or other spinner.
- The board leaned towards option no. 4 given the usage of the park. Matt will work to get firm quotes and grant opportunities will be explored for this and other Zimmerli Park upgrades.

Big Bend Snow Riders INC.

- Luke shared information about Big Bend Snow Riders; this group helps groom trails in Cottonwood and Jackson Counties; the trails committee has interest in their service to promote winter recreation along the trail and park systems;
- There is an upcoming meeting 3/1/2021 at 730pm in Lakefield (at the Shed) if we would like to share what we want to do and what they can do for us; Luke will attend the meeting and report back to the Park Board in March 2021.

Phil/Neal Report.

- The Ice Skate Rink is still not ready due to warm weather but they do plan continue to flood the rink.
- The city will be soliciting applications for spring/summer seasonal help; there are new age requirements for applicants (now can be 16 years old to operate machinery rather than 18 years old).

Next Meeting:

- March 9th, 2021 at 530pm.

Adjournment:

