

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

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

Online via Zoom: Mike Gruhlke

Agenda Items:

Dog Park/Disc Golf Course

- Overview: The dog park will likely be located along the west-side of the trail; there are some things to consider including: separate areas into two areas (one for small dogs, one for larger dogs), keep an area open for Frisbee/fetch, determine if we want to leave extra space for future expansion,
- Pricing considerations: cost of fencing (\$10,000-\$20,000) will make up bulk of project cost;
- Ordinances/Rules: "unleashed animals", more than likely the city has rules but there might be specific rules for a park of this nature.
- Next Steps: Check out Lakefield Dog Park Model, Bill will take measurements and help get a quote on how much the park cost to build.
- What we need to do: decide how involved we want to be; decide what features we'd like to see added to the dog park and then loop the park board and Bill on the features we like to see added; decide if we want the park to be a "closed system" or an "open system"
- We also want to keep in mind a water source for the dogs; park board believes it would be sufficient for a dog park attendee to bring their own water for their pets.

Big Bend Snow Riders INC.

- Luke visited with Big Bend Snow Riders INC on March 1st, 2021; in summary, they would be willing to snow groom trails for us;
- Their rate is \$50-\$60 per hour (depending where they are in the community it could be cheaper) to develop a trail for us;
- Their smallest width groomer is 5ft and their largest is 17ft;
- They won't groom over lakes/rivers due to MN regulations (plus they were a bit concerned themselves going over ice);
- If we would like to put together an event in 2022 (i.e. a cross country ski race) they would be willing to groom a trail circuit for us as well as possibly charge less if we put some of their signage up to promote their services; it is important to note their groomers do not have the drag for ski lines, but they might be able to put together an adapter to make lines though;

- In sum, the grooming season for them is basically over and the goal would be to plan for next year.

Park Shelter House:

- The council approved renting the shelter house out; Matt provided a new applicant agreement (see attached).
- 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.

Darren Wilson 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 updated quote for Zimmerli Park of \$25,754; this would include adding accelerator swing and a ten spin.
- The thought process is to see how the gardens go over, see if residents would like to see additions to the park, and we can go from there; at this time, we have a safety plan but would like to see how the community gardens happen.
- Motion: no action/no motion topic.

Jackson Community Education

- Jacqueline from Community Education would like to host summer recreation programs at the new Ashley Park Shelter.
- This would be held on June 16th, 2021 and July 28th, 2021 at the Ashley Park Shelter House; the payment will be waived, but the liability waiver must be filled out.
- Motion: motion made by Luke, seconded by Jennifer, to allow Jackson Community Education to use the shelter house for Community Education activities in June and July 2021.

Phil/Neal Report.

- There are several sidewalk panels that are broken/need replacing; Phil will talk to contractors to get some bids; sidewalk repairs would come out of the park board funding.
- Bergen is going to be connecting with Phil for trail repair.
- Phil is exploring upgrading mowers to be more accommodating to the trail system; we will still need the skid loader for other areas, but we need accessories for other equipment (i.e. blowers, groomers, plows, etc.); new park trucks will also be needed down the road;
- Trails are put of this community, so we want to have the equipment to help maintain them.
- Seasonal applications have been in the newspaper; there have been some applicants; there are still age requirements for equipment use (i.e. 18 years of age or older to drive a pickup with a trailer).

Next Meeting:

- April 13th, 2021 at 530pm.

Adjournment: motion made by Luke, seconded by Lynne.