

**CITY OF MOORHEAD  
PARK ADVISORY BOARD  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, August 18, 2009  
Hjemkomst Center  
202 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North  
Moorhead, Minnesota 56560**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Moorhead Park Advisory Board (PAB) was held at the Hjemkomst Center, Moorhead, Minnesota, on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August 2009.

**Members Present:** Randy Bach, Heidi Durand, Lila Hazemann, Greg Lemke, Ron Schneider, Rick Stotts, City Council Alternate -Diane Wray-Williams

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Larry Anderson, Parks/Forestry Manager; Holly Heitkamp, Recreation Division Manager; Karen Stremick, Office Specialist, Mark Hintermeyer, Moorhead City Council

**Visitors Present:** Deb Haugen, 4307 River Haven Road South, Moorhead; Kim Lipitzkay, 3604 Westmoor Boulevard, Moorhead; Katie Anderson, Clay County Public Health Intern; Keely Hyland, Clay County Public Health; Matt Prendergast, Clay County Public Health; Gina Nolte, Clay County Public Health; Nancy Taralson, Moorhead Police Department; Barry Nelson, Metro Youth Partnership

**2. RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**

Visitors Present

**3. MINUTES – June 16, 2009**

Lemke motioned to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2009 PAB Meeting, the motion was seconded by Bach. All votes were in favor; the motion carried.

**4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

None

**5. AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

Add Agenda Item 9 for discussion on the move of Stickball to the Riverfront Park NRC Building.

**6. NORTHERN EMPIRE PIZZA (DOMINOS PIZZA) CONTRACT RECOMMENDATION**

Staff announced that the contract with Northern Empire Pizza d.b.a. Domino's Pizza was up for renewal for the 2009-2010 school year. Domino's Pizza has been serving Pizza since 1994, during the high school lunch period from the Moorhead Sports Center concession stand. The City of Moorhead receives 15% of all Domino's lunch sales, which amounts to approximately \$8,000 in annual revenues.

In 2006, area schools adopted a wellness policy where vending machines were replaced with milk, juice and bottled water, and healthier school lunches were provided. Representatives from Clay County Public Health were present to ask for the PAB's support in following the wellness policy at the Moorhead Sports Center, during the school hours. They suggested having Domino's serve pizza with a whole wheat crust and turkey pepperoni as a healthier food option. Domino's has raised concerns that their sales would decrease to the point of providing lunches in the Sports Center would be unprofitable, and they would be forced to discontinue the service. Also with Moorhead High School having an open campus lunch which allows students the option to leave the school during lunch periods, it is felt that students would go elsewhere. Hazemann felt that by high school age students will make their own choices and if they do not choose the "healthy option" they would leave campus in vehicles or on foot for their lunch period. She preferred to keep students on campus for their safety. It was also mentioned that students are having pizza delivered to the school. Lemke stated that the goals of the wellness policy were very admirable; however, with the open campus lunch he was concerned for its success. Wray-Williams stated that it was important for public entities to support each other. Staff stated that they had received no official stand on this issue from Moorhead High School Administration.

A motion was made by Lemke to renew the contract with Northern Empire Pizza with no new menu requirements. The motion was seconded by Hazemann. Two votes were in favor, three votes opposed, one vote abstained; the motion failed.

Questions were raised if Domino's was not interested/able to provide a healthier lunch service, were there other vendors that would be interested in providing healthier food options during lunch periods. Staff responded that there was very little time between when this issue was brought to staff and the PAB meeting so additional information could be provided at a future meeting.

A motion was made by Durand to table this issue until the September PAB Meeting so Staff would have time to research other possible vendors and/or healthier options from Domino's Pizza. The motion was seconded by Bach. A majority of votes were in favor; the motion passed.

7. **PARK PROGRAM AT ROMKEY PARK/CENTRO CULTURAL**

Nancy Taralson from the Moorhead Police Department and Barry Nelson from Metro Youth Partnership were present to update the PAB on the current youth program in the Romkey Park area. Due to the loss of Youthworks programming at Romkey Park the public requested another program be available for the area youth. Through collaboration between Centro Cultural, Boys and Girls Club, Moorhead Parks and Recreation, Moorhead Police Department and Minnesota Extension Service and 4-H, a program for youth ages five to seventeen is now being provided at no charge to the participants. The various organizations are providing resources and sharing schedules in what is becoming a very successful youth program. The current funding will allow for six weeks of programming. Additional funding and volunteers are being sought to continue this program.

**8. APPROVAL OF MB JOHNSON PARK RENOVATIONS**

PAB was presented with the site plan and building drawings for MB Johnson Park. The project is within budget and could go to City Council for approval as early as Monday, August 24, 2009. The drawings show an enclosed building that could be utilized year round with a group room, concession area, bathrooms with interior/exterior access and an open picnic area attached. The picnic area could accommodate approximately 60-80 people.

A motion was made by Bach to approve the MB Johnson plans and proceed with the bid process. The motion was seconded by Stotts. All votes were in favor; the motion passed.

**9. MOORHEAD YOUTH HOCKEY ARENA/STICKBALL**

Moorhead Youth Hockey Association (MYHA) has approached staff interested in placing an outdoor, natural rink on the existing Moorhead Youth Hockey Arena site. They would like to use the area to the north of the arena where the former skate park was located. MYHA would remove the concrete and supply boards for the arena. MYHA's future plans have included placing a building on this site. Prior to any construction, MYHA would have to have all plans and easements verified and approved. Currently the area is used by the Midwest Stickball League. Staff has had discussions with Midwest Stickball League and they are willing to relocate to the current Riverfront Park tennis court site. The condition of the courts no longer allows for tennis play; however, it would be able to accommodate stickball.

A motion was made by Lemke to approve moving the Midwest Stickball League to Riverfront Park and converting the tennis courts for stickball play. The motion was seconded by Stotts. All votes were in favor; the motion passed.

**9. UPDATE/INFORMATION**

Chair Schneider adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted by:



Karen Stremick  
Office Specialist  
Moorhead Parks and Recreation