

CHISAGO COUNTY PARK BOARD OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, December 19, 2024

At 3:00 pm, Thursday, December 19th, 2024, the Chisago County Park Board of Directors met in regular session at the Chisago County Government Center. The following members present: John Pantelis, Gregg Carlson, and Allen Siedow. Also present: Joe Tart; Park Director, Nicole Hawley; Office Support Specialist, Jackson McDowell; Parks and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, Dan Dahlberg; 5th District County Commissioner, and Kurt Schneider; Environmental Services Director. Absent: Jolene Wille and Jessica Bergan.

Meeting Summary:

- Future Community Garden and 2025 Meeting Schedule were added to New Business on the agenda.
- Unanimously the Board approved November 21, 2024 minutes.
- Board Approved 2025 Meeting Schedule.

Vice Chair Pantelis called the meeting to order and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call of the Board members was taken. A quorum was established.

Gregg Carlson added Future Community Garden to the agenda. Director Tart added 2025 Meeting Schedule to the agenda. **Motion** by Gregg Carlson to approve the amended agenda. Second by Allen Siedow and carried unanimously.

Motion by Allen Siedow to approve the November 21st, 2024 minutes. Second by Gregg Carlson and carried unanimously.

Citizen's Forum: No one present.

Old Business

A. Public Auction Items- Sold

Director Tart updated the Park Board that 4 Parks Items were sold on the Public Surplus auction site.

B. Emerald Ash Bore (EAB)- Biocontrol Update

Director Tart updated the Park Board that he heard back from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture that Ki-Chi-Saga County Park was submitted to the USDA as a proposed biocontrol site for the summer of 2025. If approved, they will release a specific variety of stingless wasps will help to control the EAB population.

C. Ki-Chi-Saga Concession Building- Update

Tile was added to the concession room. Appliances are in the process of getting ordered.

New Business

A. 2025 Meeting Schedule

The Park Board discussed that the 2025 June meeting will fall on a Minnesota State Holiday, Juneteenth (June 19th), and will move that meeting to Tuesday, June 17th. The board approved the amended 2025 Park Board meeting schedule.

B. Legacy Funding Application- 24-015 F- SIRT

Director Tart updated the Park Board that we were awarded the grant for Segment D. GMRPTC asked if we would phase out the original project. Director Tart presented two phasing out options to the Park Board, Segment D and E.

C. Public Display Board

Chisago County has started a Public Display Board that will be reserved by departments to advertise/highlight events or what their department offers. The Parks Department reserved the board for the month of December to highlight our winter activities. The Park Board discussed the possibilities of having the board in schools and community centers.

D. Implementation Ideas- 2025

Director Tart discussed getting a park counter at our parks and trailheads to track the number of users. Doing this, it will help with future grants. The trail counters come in a pack of 4. The package costs \$2,500.

Director Tart discussed the possibility of getting branded stickers with characters for each park that people/kids could collect. The idea of selling a poster/map of the park characters were discussed as well.

The Parks Department is interested in doing a Medallion Hunt. To move the event forward, the Park Department is looking for a donation for the award. It was discussed that this event would be held in the winter or during the Chisago County Fair.

E. Future Community Garden

Gregg Carlson discussed speaking with the City of Lindstrom Mayor about adding a community garden to Ki-Chi-Saga County Park due to the City of Lindstrom getting rid of their community garden. The topic was discussed between the Park Board and Park Department staff. There was not a final decision on this topic and will get discussed in the future.

Adjourn –Motion by Allen Siedow to adjourn the meeting. Second by Gregg Carlson and carried unanimously at 4:16 pm.