Members Present: Chair Jerry Langsweirdt; Vice Chair Donna Breugemman; Council Representative Mayor Pete Ewals; Tim Bischke; Margaret Knutson

Staff Present: Senior Planner Joe Janish

Others Present: None

1.0 Call to Order.

Chair Langsweirdt called the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:03 pm.

2.0 Adopt Agenda.

Motion Bischke, seconded by Breugemman to approve agenda as submitted. Motion unanimously approved.

3.0 Approval of Minutes.

Motion Breugemann, seconded by Bischke to approve the November 24, 2008 minutes. Motion unanimously approved.

4.0 Presentations/Discussions.
(This item was conducted after adjournment)

A. Interviews.

Chair Langsweirdt, Commissioner Knutson and Mayor Ewals interviewed four individuals for the four terms that were open. The terms would be a two year appointment if appointed by the Mayor and City Council. The members interviewed the following candidates: Tim Bischke and Donna Breugemman who were seeking reappointment along with John Glynn and Thom Boncher who were seeking appointment. After the interviews the members discusses it would be beneficial to see all four members appointed to the Park and Recreation Commission. Staff was directed to indicate to the Mayor and City Council to reappoint Tim Bischke and Donna Breugemman while appointing John Glynn and Thom Boncher to the Park and Recreation Commission for a two year appointment.

5.0 Old Business.

A. Fishing Pier.
Senior Planner Janish noted that Public Works Director Bendzick has had conversations with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) about possibly funding a fishing pier for the Mill Pond. Janish further noted the Park and Recreation Commission has discussed constructing a fishing pier for several years and has held off until the dredging of the pond. Since the dredging has been completed Public Works Director Bendzick has been notified that the DNR would be willing to contribute $6,000 towards constructing a pier that would cost $8,000. This would mean the City of Jordan would have to make up the difference. Janish stated Mr. Bendzick intends to approach the Jordan Fire Department and Fish Lake Sports Club to see if the two organizations would be willing to donate funds for the construction of the fishing pier.

Janish also noted once the pier is constructed it would be placed on the ice between the spillway and warming house along Park Drive and as the ice melts the fishing pier would “drop” into place and float. Janish also noted the fishing pier has the ability to be moved in needed.

Commissioner Bischke noted the Jordan Commercial Club may also be interested in possibly funding a project such as this.

Commissioner Breeggeemann also noted that Siwek Lumber may have an interest in donating supplies for the fishing pier as well.

Commissioner Knutson questioned if funding from the City would be necessary if donations would not be able to cover the remaining costs for the pier. Commissioners discussed the possibility of providing the funding if the donations did not meet the $2,300. Staff was directed to provide an update if funding is not available at the next meeting and to keep the Park and Recreation Commission in the loop on the progress of the fishing pier.

No action taken.

6.0 New Business.

None.

7.0 Planners Report.

Senior Planner Janish indicated he would like to schedule a time with members and the newly appointed individuals in order to discuss their ideas for the Park and Recreation Commission and projects they would like to see going into the future.

Mr. Janish also indicated he has started some preliminary work on Frisbee/Disc Golf Courses and will report at an upcoming meeting.

8.0 Commissioner Report.

Commissioner Breeggeemann questioned the possibility of planting a tree in memory of the years of service former Commissioner Willy Pauly had served with the Park and Recreation Commission. Chair Langswierdt indicated Mary Jo has spoken to him in passing about possible installing a Park Bench in the Park in memory of Mr. Pauly. Commissioners noted to hold off on looking into the matter more until the family has decided what they would like to do for honoring the memory of Mr. Pauly.
Commissioner Knutson indicated Community Education is looking into costs of upgrading one of the existing ball fields on the school property. The upgrades would include fencing and lighting a practice field.

Chair Langsweirdt questioned the status of the additional field at Holzer Park and if the sewer line would be directionally bored or open trenched. Mr. Janish noted he would research the matter and provide a report at an upcoming meeting.

Chair Langsweirdt also questioned if it is possible to include account information for the Park Land Dedication Fund and the Park Equipment Improvement Fund.

Mayor Ewals indicated he has had concerns over the way Park Drive was treated in regards to the Park and Recreation Commission. Ewals noted he would like to see the Park and Recreation Commission review more of the projects the City may undertake in the future. Mr. Ewals also noted that the City should consider the atmosphere it generates in order to become the “Hub of Scott County” in regards to biking. Mayor Ewals referenced Lanesboro in regards to biking and trails. Lanesboro has the “look” and “feel” and was similar in topography to Jordan since it has bluffs and rivers. Mr. Ewals also noted the Park and Recreation Commission should consider providing trail connections to, and expand on the Minnesota River which would allow for families to utilize the trail system along the river.

Commissioner Bischke indicated he would like to see more follow through from staff when it relates to projects that receive Park and Recreation Commission and City Council support.

9.0 Adjournment.

Motion Bischke, seconded Knutson, to adjourn the Park and Recreation Commission meeting at 7:33 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.

(As noted above interviews where conducted for the open positions after adjournment please see item 4.0 A.)

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Janish
Senior Planner