



**CITY OF JORDAN  
MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**MONDAY, February 25, 2008**

**JORDAN GOVERNMENT CENTER  
210 E. 1<sup>st</sup> St.  
Jordan, MN 55352  
Council Chambers**

Ron Beckman, Chair  
Jerry Langsweirdt,  
Vice Chair  
Tania Branitski  
Donna Breeggemann  
Tim Bischke  
Chris Schwingler  
Willy Pauly

Ron Jabs, Mayor and  
Council  
representative

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by Vice Chair Jerry Langsweirdt.

Commissioners attending the meeting were Jerry Langsweirdt, Donna Breeggemann, Tim Bischke, and Willy Pauly; and Council Representative Mayor Ron Jabs.

Staff in attendance: Public Works Director Dave Bendzick, Senior Planner Joe Janish and Planner Casey MacCallum.

Also in attendance: Grant DesRoches, and Deborah Dahlk

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** *Motion by Tim Bischke, seconded by Ron Jabs, to accept the January 28, 2008 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion unanimously approved.*

*Motion Tim Bischke, second Donna Breeggemann, to move agenda item 4A Commissioner Appointments after item 5A Playground Presentation. Motion unanimously approved.*

**OLD BUSINESS:** there were 2 items of old business.

**A. Commissioner Appointments.** Moved back after presentation.

**B. Park Shelter.** Public Works Director Bendzick presented his findings regarding the placement of a shelter the City purchased from the City of Savage. Mr. Bendzick found that placing the shelter at Timberline Park would not be feasible because of the size and space available. Mr. Bendzick suggested the shelter be placed at Holzer Park for baseball tournaments or Sawmill Park because of the amount of a future trail crossings. The Commission came to a consensus that the shelter should be placed at Holzer Park because of the amount of use it would receive during tournaments and that the City over the last year has invested a considerable amount of work into improving the ball fields at Holzer.

**PRESENTATIONS:** There was 1 presentation.

**A. Play Ground Presentation.** Grant DesRoches presented the history and new trends of playground equipment. Highlighting problems in playground focus, design and construction such as (1) boredom on traditional playground equipment, (2) obesity, (3) Safety, (4) Accessibility for handicapped people, (5) price of playgrounds, (6) vandalism, (7) the “no child left inside” program, (8) the aging population and multigenerational play, and (10) sustainability.

Mr. DesRoches also presented the new trend in playground called Evos. The cost of most playground structures is \$35,000 to \$50,000 and playgrounds are usually geared for two separate age groups: 2-5 and 5-12. The 2-5 group wants a textile experience such as panels and individual play. The 5-12 group would use a structure such as Evos for group

play and physical activity. Mr. DesRoches also noted that sand is illegal and other new trends in playground equipment, and offered a factory tour of their plant in Delano.

Mr. Janish asked what the usual process for constructing a playground and Mr. DesRoches explained that most cities use a RFP format requesting applicants to provide a design for the park playground, then a committee chooses the best product.

OLD BUSINESS: as moved from previous item.

**A. Commissioner Appointments.** As presented by Joe Janish: At the last Park and Recreation Commission meeting four individuals were interviewed. At that time it was staff's understanding the Park and Recreation Commission requested staff to review the ordinance in regards to a non-resident being on the commission as a voting member. An Ordinance that covers all the Commissions states "Each Board and Commission shall hold its regular meeting at a time established and approved by the Council. All members shall be residents of the city, except that 2 members of each board or Commission may be residents of a neighboring township if the Council deems such arrangement more representative."

The code is actually concerned with representation and not tax implications. In the past a member from the township has had voting abilities that could have had tax implications to the community. Please keep in mind, every item the Park and Recreation reviews and makes a recommendation on the City Council still has to ratify the item. With this step in place a non-resident would not be determining tax implications but the Jordan City Council would. Staff does not believe it is feasible to add a non-resident member with no voting abilities. The Park and Recreation Commission is an open meeting, individuals are able to approach members with ideas outside the "formal" setting and staff has an open door policy to invite ideas and concerns from the public.

The Ordinance further states the Park and Recreation Commission shall be 7 members. According to State Statute, a park board must be either 3, 5, 7, or 9 members. The number of members can be changed by 2/3 vote of the entire Council and currently set at 7 members and a City Council member. The State Statute would allow for only 7 or 9 members. Staff is recommending the Park and Recreation Commission appoint only two members to replace the expired terms and the City Council member would bring the commission to 7 members as specified in the City Code and would then meet the requirements set forth in State Statute.

Commissioner Pauly discussed his displeasure with having a non-Jordan resident on the board but expressed his appreciation and acknowledgement of what Marty Huss would bring to the board.

***Motion Tim Bischke, second Donna Breeggemann, to recommend Margaret Knutson and Jerry Langsweirdt be appointed; and the City Council representative be moved to the 7<sup>th</sup> voting member of the Commission. Motion unanimously approved.***

NEW BUSINESS: There were 2 items of new business.

**A. 2008 Commission Meeting Dates.** Planner MacCallum presented possible meeting dates for the following year, mostly falling on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday with the exception of May 27<sup>th</sup>, which was moved to Tuesday because of the Memorial Day holiday. A meeting on December 22 was accepted but the December meeting is usually canceled due to the holidays; staff recommended having interviews during this meeting.

**B. MNDNR Local Trail Connection Program.** *As presented by Planner Casey MacCallum:* Staff recommended applying for the MNDNR Local Trail Connection Program which is a 50/50 match grant application to construct a trail along Co. 66/Old 169 from Aberdeen to Hillside Avenue, except that portion that will be constructed by Sand Co. The MNDNR recommended that we reapply for the Trail Grant even though we were denied last year. Staff provided Resolution 1-2008 Supporting Jordan's MNDNR Local Trail Connection Grant Application; the grant application with the DNR's changes; and the Grant's attachments.

The trail would cost \$174,923.38 (\$105,930.69 for Segment 1 and \$68,992.69 for Segment 2). Staff recommended the local match of \$87,461.69 come from the Park Dedication Account (currently \$514,062.31).

**Motion Tim Bischke, second Donna Breeggemann, to support the Parks and Recreation Resolution 1-2008 stating the benefit of the trail and application to the MNDNR Local Trail Connection Program; and recommend the City Council also support the application.**

PLANNER'S REPORT: There was 1 item on the Planner's Report.

**A. Accounts.** Staff informed the Parks and Recreation Commission that as of February 20, 2008 the Parkland Dedication account had \$514,062.31 and the Park Equipment Improvement account has \$85,503.85.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT:

Commissioner Breeggemann discussed the possibility of holding a grand opening of the Mill Pond if it is possible to have DNR staff/officials present to increase awareness and benefit.

Mayor Jabs informed the Commissioners about the dredging and the deeper area for fish survival and its timeline. The beach will be used fairly often and may require limited lifeguarding.

Commissioner Pauly expressed concern over people not cleaning up after their dogs and discussed signage for dogs and designating an area as a dog park.

Commissioner Langsweirdt discussed the Jordan Lionesses purchase of a memorial bench for Josh Anderson.

ADJOURN: **Motion by Donna Breeggemann, seconded by Willy Pauly, to adjourn at 9:06pm. Motion unanimously approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

Casey MacCallum  
Planner