

## Le Sueur County Parks Board

### May 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Present: Larry Maruska, John King, Charles Richter, Mark Volkenant, Steve Rohlring, Mike Schultz, and Brigid Tuck

Parks Director: Tyler Luethje

1. Call to Order at 5 pm; meeting held via WebEx
2. Approval of agenda, roll call, motion carries 7-0
3. Approval of February Minutes, roll call, motion carries 7-0
4. Introductions
  - a. No guests
5. COVID updates
  - a. Parks and trails
    - i. Are open
    - ii. At extremely high levels of usage
    - iii. Users are largely respecting social distancing rules
  - b. Camping
    - i. Currently not allowed in developed campgrounds, but undeveloped campgrounds are open
    - ii. May open on June 1
    - iii. State task force on camping has been formed to develop guidelines
    - iv. Lake Washington
      1. Likely to open to self-contained RV units first (must have own water)
      2. Keep shower house facility closed for short-term
        - a. Will have PPE equipment in case shower house is needed for emergency shelter
    - v. Clear Lake
      1. Undeveloped campgrounds, so it is open
      2. Signs are posted indicating a maximum of 4 units; sites are marked
  - c. Playgrounds
    - i. Recommended to close early on; most cities/counties closed in March/April
    - ii. Many are reopening now; we will likely reopen ours too
  - d. Fishing piers
    - i. Currently open to 1 household per time
    - ii. Change to general social distancing signs
  - e. Facilities
    - i. Group gatherings are canceled through mid-June; people can get refund or reschedule a new date
    - ii. Keep reevaluating as we go
  - f. Porta Potties
    - i. Have not placed porta potties at this time
    - ii. Concern about sanitizing; cannot necessarily clean between each use
    - iii. No complaints to date

6. Staff
  - a. Richter Woods facility worker
    - i. Not hiring a person to be on site
    - ii. Will be hiring someone to clean, but holding off as long as no building rentals
  - b. Seasonal mowing
    - i. Starting mowing May 1<sup>st</sup>
    - ii. Have 2 people mowing 40 hours a week
7. Lake Washington Regional Park and Campground
  - a. Grant update
    - i. We will still get the grant, but not sure when we will receive funds, may need to push out a year
  - b. Protocols and procedures
    - i. First goal, ensure safety of our workers and guests
    - ii. Step system, begin with opening for self-contained units
    - iii. Then try to get our facilities open
    - iv. Then outdoor recreational opportunities
    - v. Finally, full operations
  - c. 2020 Programming
    - i. Had a full slate of programs planned, something every weekend
    - ii. All programs through June 13<sup>th</sup> are currently cancelled
    - iii. Will continue to watch for guidance from state
    - iv. Saturday Shenanigans, was always designed to be self-guided; so might move forward with the activities
      1. Lake Washington Improvement Association gave us a donation to fund programming
    - v. With Camp Patterson closed, is this an opportunity for Lake Washington?
8. Bradshaw Woods archery range
  - i. COVID has slowed progress down
  - ii. Boy scouts are respecting social distancing, so are still working on it
  - iii. Plan for grand opening type event eventually
9. Dock donation
  - a. MN Southern Lakes Angling and Spearing donated a dock
  - b. Installed on Fish Lake
  - c. Dock value is \$5,900; high quality docks
  - d. Thank you!
10. Budget
  - a. With current uncertainty, carefully watching the budget, trimming expenses as appropriate
11. Other
  - a. Logos
    - i. Finalized design; posted on FaceBook
    - ii. Colored, black and white, and clear options
12. Plan for next meeting
13. Future meetings – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month, 5-6 pm

- a. No June and July meeting scheduled
    - i. Tyler will provide updates via email
  - b. Plan on an August in person meeting, pending situation
  - c. Revisit the parks ordinance
14. Adjourn at 5:53; motion to adjourn by Mike, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve, motion carries.