

The Baxter Hometown Pride Committee meeting was called to order on Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room of City Hall.

Members present were Rich and Marie Van Beek, Paul Van Beek, Leah Wall, JoAnn Maxwell and Peg Kimberley.

Baxter Early Learning Center Board members Kelly Maher, Lindey Butler and Jenna Stratton were in attendance to present proposed playground plans for Geise Park. With Hometown Prides approval the plan is to locate the playground on the southern portion of what is now the tennis court. In a previous discussion with Marie Van Beek, it was suggested the shelter be located to the north of the playground to allow for easy visibility. A private donor is looking to install security cameras off the shelter for the immediate area. BELC funds will complete the removal of the tennis court base along with all ground prep work involved for the site, equipment and safety ground cover. Proposed equipment was reviewed along with a site plan for installation. With Hometown Pride's approval the plans will be presented to the City Council at the February meeting for final approval. At that point the order will be placed and is tentatively set for installation in June. Paul moved to approve and proceed. Leah seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

There were no Minutes for approval.

Treasurer's Report – Marie presented. Undesignated Balance - \$19,788.83, Geise Park Reno Balance - \$216,889.57. Paul moved to approve. Rick seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Marie presented reworked by-laws. Everyone is to review and advise if there are any changes that need made. Will vote on approval at the February meeting.

Grants were discussed. Marie will proceed with an application to Prairie Meadows. Marie and Peg will also work on a Black Hills Energy grant application. The Jasper County Community Grant application period should also be opening soon.

Discussion was held on preparing the primitive camping sites for the coming summer. Would need three 12 x 12' concrete pads for installing the picnic tables. Fire rings were further discussed. With the prairie grasses having been removed the group will present the idea to the City Council at their next meeting to determine if fire rings will be allowed. Peg will contact Bryan Davies on the cost and design. Can apply for a Jasper County Community Grant for these. Paul moved to proceed with preparing the primitive camp sites for the summer. JoAnn seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Discussion was held on installation of a culvert on the west side of the detention pond to allow for a full walking trail around the pond. Peg will discuss with Public Works Director Bryce Halter.

Future plans/projects were briefly discussed. An Easter Egg Hunt was brought up. Peg will contact a member of The Way Church to find out if they plan to hold the Hunt again this year.

With no further business, Rich moved to adjourn. Paul seconded. Motion carried all ayes.
Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Peg Kimberley
Secretary