



AGENDA  
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, March 3, 2020  
Christensen Field Meeting Room – 7pm

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Open Meeting Law posted for public review.
4. Reading of the Parks & Recreation Board Minutes, February 4, 2020.
5. Request by Rowan Mitchell of Rebuild America / Americorp for spring Clean-Up Hormel Park.
6. Request of MainStreet Fremont to use John C. Fremont Park on Thursday evenings during the month of June for Concert in the Park Series.
7. Director's Report – Kim Koski
  - \*City Auditorium renovation update.
  - \*Senior Center Awning Project - CDBG
  - \*Senior Center Concrete Project - CDBG
  - \*JCF Park Splash Pad
  - \*Senior Office Associate; Maintenance Worker Positions
8. Recreation Report – Nate Schwanke
  - \*Summer Hiring
  - \*Summer Activities / Brochure
9. Next Meeting, Tuesday, April 7, 2020, 7pm, Christensen Field Meeting Room
10. Adjournment

***Agenda posted at City Hall and distributed to the Park Board, Mayor and City Council on Thursday, February 27, 2020. The official current copy is available at City Hall located at 400 E Military Avenue, Parks and Recreation Office. A copy of the Open Meeting Law is posted for review by the public.***



MINUTES OF PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, February 5, 2020  
Christensen Field Meeting Room – 7:00pm

**Present:** Dian Christensen Hillis, Wendy Airleywine, Connie Giese, Kim Koski, Tammy McKeighan, Dan Moran, Nate Schwanke, Ashley Washburn, Jodi Wimer, Shane Wimer.

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Chairman Moran. The agenda displayed at City Hall, 400 E Military and was distributed to the Park Board, Mayor and City Council on January 31, 2020 and is open to the public. The open meeting law is posted continually for public inspection.
2. Roll Call: Roll Call showed members Airleywine, Giese, Hillis, Moran and Washburn present; Prince absent.
3. Open meeting law posted for public review.
4. Reading of the Parks & Recreation Board Minutes, November 5, 2019 (\*No scheduled meeting in December, no meeting in January due to lack of agenda items) Motion was made by Airleywine, seconded by Giese to dispense with reading of the minutes and approve as sent. Motion carried.
5. Recreation Report – Schwanke
  - \*Summer, 2020 hiring process underway.
  - \*Will continue to offer Tiny Tots, Playgrounds, Youth Baseball for Pre-K and Kindergarten and Adult Softball Leagues.
  - \*Working on summer brochure. Copy is due to the Tribune at the end of February and it will be distributed in early March.
6. Director's Report – Koski
  - \*Renovations continue at City Auditorium. Steel is in place. Plumbing is stubbed in for new restrooms on the main floor. ADA ramps installed at entrances. Prep work for new roof is complete and materials are on site. Contractor is waiting for more favorable weather to begin.
  - \*Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Projects at Friendship Center – floor, main restrooms, front restrooms, windows and tile in the hallway are complete. Projects remaining are front entrance awning, code clean up in kitchen, ADA drinking fountains and replacing sidewalks.
  - \*JCF Splash Pad Bid Award – recommending to the City Council at the February 11, 2020 meeting that the bid be awarded to Dostal Construction, Inc.

\*Johnson Park Playground Update – All funds have been raised for the installation of the playground. Site will be moved closer to the shelter and restrooms in Johnson Park. Installation is slated for mid-April.

7. Next Meeting Tuesday, March 3, 2020, 7pm, Christensen Field Meeting Room.
8. Adjournment – Motion was made by Eairleywine, seconded by Washburn to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Koski, Secretary

I, the undersigned, the Secretary for the Parks and Recreation Board, Fremont, Nebraska, hereby certify that all of the subjects included in the attached proceedings were contained in the notice of said meeting of February 5, 2020 kept continually current and available for public inspection at the Parks & Recreation Office; that such subjects were contained in said notice for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that the minutes of the Park Board of the Parks and Recreation Department, Fremont, Nebraska were in written form and available for public inspection prior to the next convened meeting of said body. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020.

Kim Koski, Director of Parks & Recreation

February 7, 2020

## Hormel Park Trail Maintenance Proposal



Rowan Mitchell, AmeriCorps Project Coordinator  
Rebuilding Together, Platte Valley East  
445 E 1st St, Fremont, NE 68025  
Office: 402-727-7047  
Cell: 402-919-9234  
Email: [AmeriCorps@rebuildingtogetherpve.org](mailto:AmeriCorps@rebuildingtogetherpve.org)  
Website: [www.rebuildingtogetherpve.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetherpve.org)

Hormel Park has served as one of the few natural areas in Fremont where community members can go to escape the hustle of the city and relax, hike, and spend time in nature. With the flooding of the Platte River in March 2019, the park and trails were in some of the hardest hit areas. Trash and debris from fields and homes have been washed into the wooded areas, trees have been uprooted and fallen over the path in many areas, and sections of trail that follow the riverbank have been washed away completely. With my experience with trail building I have worked directly with the park and forestry services on reviving old, planning and building new, and maintaining existing trails in state parks across the state of Maryland, California, Washington, Wyoming, and even subsections of Zion National Park in Utah. I hope to utilize the skills and knowledge I have gained to achieve the following:

- Remove all trash to preserve natural environment
- Buck and disperse fallen trees to open blocked sections of trail
- Remove hazardous snagged trees and branches that could fall and create more blockages and possible injury to hikers
- Clear overgrown sides of trail to reduce risk of ticks latching to clothes, reduce potential fire fuels and ladders, and make trail for clear and welcoming to hikers
- Re-route small sections of trail that have washed away to a more sustainable path

We have already had one very successful trash removal day using volunteers from the National Lutheran Youth Gathering removing multiple refrigerators, piles of car tires, lawn furniture, mattresses, 50 gallons drums, and much more. This trash was only pulled from the area closest to the parking lot and old camping space. We at Rebuilding Together have a large pool of volunteers that I will utilize to have one or two more trash clean up days going deeper into all of the trails removing all trash we find.

For the cutbacks and reroutes we will use loppers, brush cutters, rakes, and hoes provided by Rebuilding Together. I would lead a group of volunteers in making minimal but necessary cutbacks to widen trails, as well as raking and tamping areas to help increase durability. Removing overgrown brush greatly reduces the risk of fires spreading and climbing up into the canopy by taking away the fires fuel sources. Doing so also encourages healthier growth of older trees and plants, as well as reduces the risk of picking up ticks while hiking in the summer. With the parts of the trail that have been washed away along the river, I will assess and mark small reroutes over more durable ground and ensure that the trail is built with proper grade and drainage to promote trail longevity.

With the larger scale tree removal days, I will be using a small group of skilled volunteers. I have already spoken with a few individuals who will possibly be able to donate gas powered chainsaws for the project, but if we are able to use saws provided by the city that would be more ideal. I have all personal protective equipment that will be needed as well as a pole saw, but the chainsaws owned by Rebuilding Together are not powerful enough to handle to scope of work. There are many areas were trees have fallen over the trail that we will remove and disperse the cut pieces of wood throughout the areas off

trail. There are also many snagged trees hung up over the trail that pose the threat of falling on a hiker or just blocking more areas of the trail. We will use the pole saw to first get these trees and branches to the ground and then cut and disperse into the woods as well.

For scheduling project dates, I would like to start as soon as possible, but some projects will be best to wait for early spring once the snow has cleared. Removing the larger trees and snags can be done any time, hopefully as early as possible in December before the cold and snow becomes too heavy. The cutbacks, reroutes, and trash removal would be better executed in the early spring. I plan on having groups of volunteers confirmed to work on each project for early March. Below I have attached a few pictures of areas I plan to address. I would also be happy to meet with any park directors and managers to further discuss my project plan and possible work dates.



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*Cortney Schaefer  
Executive Director*

February 13, 2020

Fremont Parks Board  
400 E. Military  
Fremont, NE 68025

Dear Parks Board Members,

On behalf of MainStreet of Fremont, we wish to request the use of the John C. Fremont Park every Thursday for the month of June. The dates are as follow, June 6, 13, 20, and 27 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thank you for your support of MainStreet Fremont and our community wide events!

If you have any questions, please contact me at (402)721-2264.

Sincerely,

Cortney Schaefer  
Executive Director  
MainStreet of Fremont, Inc.