

## ROME CITY PARK BOARD

Regular Meeting  
March 20, 2023

The Rome City Park Board held their regular meeting on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 5:32 p.m., held in the Rome City Town Hall. Called to order by President Wilkinson.

Members Present:

Leigh A. Pranger-Secretary                      Doug Maley  
Tina Wilkinson    John Martin

Members Absent:

Bridgett Coe

Roll call a quorum was present.

Interested parties in attendance: No interested parties in attendance.

Member Maley made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Member Martin. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Softball/Baseball-Secretary Pranger informed the board the softball league will only have one team this year and they will be using Kelly Park. They have scheduled their cleanup day for April 8 from 1-3 p.m.

Secretary Pranger will be on vacation for the next meeting. Member Martin made a motion to move the April meeting to April 24<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Member Maley. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried. The board stated if the weather is cooperative, we should do a walkthrough of the parks.

### Kelly Park

- a) Keypad locks Quote from Snyder Lock and Key for both concession doors are \$814.24. Secretary Pranger informed the board the locks are mechanical deadbolts so the doors can be left open when in use. Member Maley made a motion to approve the purchase of keypad deadbolt locks for the concession entry doors for Kelly and Grant Parks. Seconded by Member Martin. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried. Secretary Pranger to schedule work with Snyder's Lock and Key. 260-347-5774
- b) \*Kelly Park Playground-Pranger to get out quotes for concrete pad.
- c) \*Replace baseball back stop or reinforce-on hold- fill in hole around manhole behind home plate.
- d) Look into reconstruction of tennis courts for future planning.
- e) \*Secretary Pranger informed the board the sports complex had horseshoe and shuffleboard courts and Strawser Brothers did the work.
- f) The board stated we need to plant trees around the playground for shade during the summer months. Member Maley stated he is receiving a \$1000 donation to plant trees in the parks and will ask for one or two to be planted around the play area. He is working with NIPSCO and Dogwood hills nursery.
- g) \*Secretary Pranger stated the addition to the concrete pad for the bleacher in Kelly Park will have to wait-we can enlarge the pad and add the base stone. The water fountain at Kelly Diamond will need to be relocated to the corner of the pavilion in order to move the bleachers.

**Dog Park -Change name to Off Leash Area-Location between Kelly Park and Grant Park:**

The board discussed the Dog Park. Member Maley stated he attended R&S Boats show this past weekend and handed out information on the dog park and took in \$56 in donations. He is working on corporate and brick donations.

Secretary Pranger sent an email to Green -a-lawn for an application cost to treat for fleas and ticks, waiting to hear back.

Member Maley informed the board he spoke with NIPSCO regarding trees for the dog park to replace the trees they removed in the parks. NIPSCO will plant 6 trees, they are contracted with Dogwood Hills to plant the trees. Member Maley stated NIPSCO is still working to get the planting date on Arbor April 28<sup>th</sup>. If that date works Member Maley will check with the RC School to come out the day of the planting to help and then give them a tree to plant for participation. Member Maley is waiting to contact Principal Green until the date of planting is set.

Member Maley passed out copies of the dog park flyer and the brick fundraiser. Pranger informed the board the flyer and the brick fundraiser are on the website and they will keep track of the donations and who is making them. Member Maley informed the board Olivia Ruff (sheepdog)-anything is pawsible in Rome City, now has a Facebook page to get the word out about the Off Leash area. He asked the board members to friend her on Facebook. Member Maley stated he has a contractor willing to install the fence as long as we buy the material. This will give us a saving of almost 50%. Items needed for the park (Benches, trees, Dog Station, Signage, picnic table, dog exercise stations, fence, water fountain) Member Maley is looking into grants for dog parks. Secretary Pranger contacted our insurance company they stated a dog park is included in our coverage at no additional cost. See attached email from Ramer Insurance. Member Maley is working on getting trees donated for the off-leash area and the other parks.

**\*\*President Wilkinson informed the cost to mow the area may increase due to the additional cleaning from the dog poop. (The board stated the dog park area will only need to be mowed every other week)**

**Grant Park**

- a) Secretary Pranger is waiting on a quote from Summit Supply. She will forward when received and to ask for approval to purchase. New spring animal either a motorcycle or horse.
- b) Secretary Pranger informed the board she is working on park rules to be passed by ordinance. She is checking with other towns to see what kind of rules they have.
- c) \*Hold until 2024-Concrete pads under bleachers.
- d) The board discussed the cleaning of the leaves from along the fences. The board discussed doing the removal themselves or possibly scheduling the work to be done on a night of our regular meeting. The board decided to get a quote from our landscaping company to have the leaves removed by them. President Wilkinson will check into a quote and let the board know the amount.

**Sycamore Park**

- a) Member Maley stated he would like to see more Sycamore Trees in Sycamore Park. Pranger stated we need to look into removing at least one cottonwood tree per year until we get them all cut down.
- b) Pranger informed the board about a donation of rip rap to be placed along the shoreline in Sycamore Park. The town will have to use their trucks to haul the rip rap to the park.

**Lakeside Park**

- a) Member Maley presented the board with a quote for a 12' black vinyl coated fence around the half-court basketball court (a pickle ball court with a pull-out net) in the amount of \$14,250. He noted the yellow basketball post will be used as an anchor post for the fence, we will need to paint it with black metal paint. Member Maley stated he will look into finding someone to bore through the concrete to install the basketball goal on the north side. Member Martin made a motion to encumber funds from this year for the construction of the fence in 2023. Second by Member Maley. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.
- b) Secretary Pranger stated the striping and crack-filling, should be done prior to the installation of the fence. Pranger stated she is still waiting on a quote from Jeremy Fox. The board instructed Pranger to contact Mr. Fox and give him until the end of March to submit the quote as we need to get on the contractor's schedule so we can get the work done in the spring. This will be on the existing concrete parking lot. Member Maley stated he is speaking with Tiger Coating to get a quote for the crack fill and striping-\$6,000.
- c) Member Maley showed the board his power point on items that might be considered for the playground area. Musical Flowers \$1600, Xylophone \$6000, Musical Bench. He showed the board play equipment in the shape of a boat-the board expressed interest to keep with the lake theme. Exercise Stations for adults and kids could be added along the sidewalk. Secretary Pranger showed the board a new catalog from Summit Supply with ideas for a musical park or adult workout stations.
- d) American Rebuilders painted the merry-go-round and the guys have installed it.
- e) Playground upgrade: The board instructed Pranger to contact the play equipment company to begin the design of the playground. First step in working to getting a grant for the equipment.
- f) The board requested Pranger look into a possible grant for the installation of a small boat ramp at the east end of Lakeside park.

**Gaff Park Trail head:**

- a) Secretary Pranger informed the board we have received the well permit. She contacted Eric Bonar to set up a date to install the well. Mr. Bonar stated he will install the well once the street building is under roof. We must submit well information to IDEM a minimum of 10 days before the well is installed. The well will cost around \$8000
- b) Pranger informed the board the fixtures have been installed in the restrooms. The employees will be installing the sewer grinder station and the drinking fountain this week weather permitting.
- c) \*location for President Furlow's bench-Pranger suggested it be installed between the pine trees at the public access-There will be room we will need to place a concrete or asphalt pad.
- d) Need to sticker for water fountain-Sylvan Lake Association. Pranger is looking into a sticker to be placed on the fountain showing the sponsor. Contacted Phil Jacobs for design of sticker, he will be out this week to look at the fountain.
- e) Member Martin stated he is willing to donate a Reverse osmosis system to Gaff Park for the water fountain. Secretary Pranger said she will have Scott Neukom get in touch with Member Martin on the install.
- f) The board tentatively set the **Park Opening Celebration for Saturday, June 3, 2023.** Time to be determined by the schedule of the band. Food trucks: Street Tacos, House of Brisket and Member Maley offered cook hotdogs. Invite local groups so people can find out about their

organization, family walk/bike rides-tote bag and water for those that participate, music-contact American Legion and Sylvan Cellars for suggestions on bands. Maybe hire band that is playing at Sylvan Cellars to play during the day and then play at night at Cellars. Update-Y's Guys Yard Games Check with Ice Cream shop about mobile ice cream unit or running a special for Park Celebration that weekend. The park to provide a cake for the celebration.

Update-Fireworks and Food Trucks July 1, 2023-Party on the Patio\*, Street Tacos, ~~house of Brisket~~, Hitchin' Kitchen\*, Hotdog vendor, Kona ice\*, dessert vendor-Fundraiser for 2024 Playground at Lakeside Park

Trail update: Design phase is 90% complete and easement paperwork sent to property owners.,

Member Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. Second by Member Maley. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Next Meeting: April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. possible walk through of parks.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Leigh A. Pranger, Secretary