

Minutes of the Meeting: December 7th, 2023

Board members present: Brian Wetcher, JoAnn York-Gilmore, Tabb Stringer, Nathan Schwarck

Staff present: Bob Vaux, Darby Jordan

Meeting held in person and via Zoom and called to order at 6:00PM

Minutes: November minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Comments:

None

2026 Forest Plan Update Discussion:

The third special meeting for public comment on the Forest Plan was held on Tuesday. Written comments will be taken through January 3rd, 2024 to be complete before the next regular Forest Board meeting. All written comments received to date are posted on the Parks website. New comments are collected and typically added each week. Anyone can sign up for notification when new comments are posted with the "Notify Me" feature on the City website. The Parks staff will gather all comments and put into a matrix to sort and organize. Then the Board will give their feedback as the next step in the process.

Friends of the Forest Update:

Ellie was in attendance and reported that they have completed their kindergarten and 3rd grade programs in the district. They are preparing for the next session of their Naturalist program that will begin the end of January.

Staff Reports:

Bob announced that the new ACFL tech starts on Monday and will be at the January meeting to be introduced to the Board.

The Board asked about how often staff come across off-leash dogs in the ACFL. Bob responded that it is the biggest and most ongoing issues. There is a City ordinance that makes the charge a misdemeanor.

Parks Commission Report:

JoAnn reported on the Parks Board meeting. There is a proposal in the 2024 budget for Storvik park restoration in the northwest corner of the park. There has been some community interest in a sand volleyball court. This weekend is the Winter Wonderland Walk at Washington park, Friday and Saturday evenings from 5-8pm. The Skate Park ribbon cutting was today and was well attended with excitement from kids and adults alike. The Washington park

restroom project will be started in January and will require some trees to come down to allow for the sewer line. There will be trees planted as replacements.

Other Business:

Bob thanked the Board for their attendance and help with the additional meetings over the last few months for the Forest Plan.

Adjourn at 6:20pm

Respectfully Submitted by Darby Jordan