

BENNETT FAMILY PARK
November 7, 2004 Board Meeting Minutes

Board members present: David Kordonowy, Bob Lietzke, Nancy Countryman, Giovanni Orbita, Dave Wietecha, Gary Cayo, John Williams, Bob Jasper, Mike Prochno, Sam Ashkar, Bill Hickey, Chris Wold, Hank O'Brien

Meeting called to order at 7:02.

Minutes: With a few changes to the minutes and upon motion made and seconded, the October board minutes were approved.

Financial Report: Upon motion made and seconded the fiscal year for Bennett Family Park (BFP) was changed to January 1 - December 31. The leagues would like the park to maintain the fields and not have the leagues spend the extra cost at the end of the season to get the fields ready for the winter and the next season. League fees will be increased for 2005 to cover part of the cost to maintain the fields. BFP has asked the leagues for \$40,000 to update the fields; the leagues will come up with \$21,000 of those funds. BFP has requested \$6,000 from TBR to update field #1. TBR believes that it will take more than \$6,000 to update field #1 to playing and they are aware they will have to pay for some of those costs. The board needs to build into the budget for 2005 a \$1,000 for the Gopher Classic. The Siebert Fall Classic at this time is paying no fees and is not budgeted for any in 2005. The board discussed having any one using field #1 pay the same fees TBR pays to use the field. The board needs to review the economics of Fall Baseball before we can access fees for use of the fields during the fall season.

Maintenance: Dave Wietecha of ETLI updated the board on the upgrades to fields #2 and #4. ETLI estimates the cost about \$10,000 to \$12,000 for field upgrades. The sprinklers have been blown out and the pump has been pulled. It was recommended not to place a filter on the pump. It would be too costly and we would need to change the filter about three times a week. Nancy will call the city to pick up the equipment after November 7. Equipment to be stored by the city will be the two Gators and the walk behind mower. Magny Construction has removed the dirt pile. The remaining dirt will cost about \$2,500 to remove. TBR aerated and fertilized field #1 for \$2,258. Fixed the roof on the scorers shed for \$1,200. In the spring of 2005 TBR will trim, aerate, spray for broad leaf and overseed. The pitching mound was raised 4 inches. Perma-line was purchased to add to the outfield foul lines. TBR would like BFP to purchase the 1-1/4 tons of sand to go under the perma-line. Drainage along the third base line needs to be addressed.

Concession Stand: Shut down.

League Reports: MGSA – Nothing to report
ETLI – Nothing to report
TBR – Nothing to report

Committees: The 2005 budget will be reviewed at the November meeting. The 5-year planning group reviewed a worksheet that would list priorities and expenses that the board would like to see done at the park. The board developed the Park Manager job description and Mike Prochno volunteered to meet with prospective candidates.

Other: TBR had a guest speaker discuss "The Miracle League" organization. This organization helps assists children with disabilities play baseball. They explained how the league is organized and what it does in order to build a field in any given community. The Miracle League estimates it would cost about \$200,000 to build a special field at an existing facility for these children to play on. The BFP board will explore the option of adding the Miracle League field and how it would affect the park. The Miracle League would handle the majority of the fundraising for a field to be constructed. No decisions were made related too this presentation. This will be a topic for discussion at future meetings. The Highway 101 project is proceeding along with positive news. The independent appraisal that was done on behalf of BFP was completed and showed a substantial increase in cost per square foot. Board member Giovanni Orbita

and Cletus Liedel are meeting with Hennepin County to discuss the appraisal and present our case for the higher amount per square foot. The Tot lot has not been constructed yet as planned by the city. Dave Kordonowy will contact the project manager to check on the status. The Tonka Baseball Stadium is looking at raising funds to update the field at the high school. The BFP board feels it is in our best interest to raise funds ourselves to update field #1. Upon motion made and seconded, the BFP board will formalize a plan to update field #1

Old Business: None

New Business: None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.