

MINUTES
Moline Park & Recreation Board
Friday, August 30, 2013



PRESENT:

PARK BOARD MEMBERS:

Carrie Bull
Roger Clawson
Nichole Jones
Dan McNeil
Chip Nelson
Deb Petersen

PUBLIC OFFICIALS: Alderman Dick Brown

STAFF:

Laura Duran, Parks Recreation Director
Scott Hinton, City Engineer
Rodd Schick, Park Operations Manager
Lori Wilson, Recreation Programmer II

OTHERS:

Rebecca Bernard, FORC
Harris Elias, FORC
Jolene Keeney, Moline Resident
Curt Roseman, Historic Preservation Commission
Press

Park Board President Chip Nelson, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

President asked for public comment.

Curt Roseman spoke to the historical importance of the Sylvan Island Bridge, being quite sure that it is the oldest bridge on the Mississippi River to stay in one place, with the Railroad bridge being the oldest, but it had previously been at another location. Mr. Roseman proposed 3 ideas: 1- get another engineers estimate for the rehabilitation of the bridge, 2- install a second bridge downstream of the existing bridge for use and keet the existing bridge for historical purposes, 3- put a span of the existing bridge on the island for a historical preservation display.

Harris Elias spoke regarding his review of the report and his concerns with cost creeping if the bridge is rehabilitated rather than replaced. He agrees with the report that once a rehabilitation began it would be opening a can of worms of hidden costs and greatly exceed the estimate due to the massive amounts of hand labor needed. The most cost effective solution is replacement.

Jolene Keeney spoke in support of historical preservation in general and cited the Illinois preservation Issues website that states over 2 million visitors a year come to Illinois to tour historic sites.

Dan McNeil thanked everyone for coming to speak for the cause. He expressed that he thought it would be difficult to find grant funding for a historic bridge/ trail.

In reference to the idea of utilizing the bridge as a piece of artwork, picking it up and moving it to a location on the island, that the bridge would need to be taken down by hand because it is too far gone to safely pick it up with a crane and move it.

Roger Clawson made a motion to recommend to City Council to replace the existing bridge structure with a 12 foot wide prefabricated bridge as recommended in the Missman report. Deb Petersen seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Carrie Bull, seconded by Deb Petersen, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:36a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan McNeil
Secretary, Moline Park and Recreation Board