

Medina Park Commission Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2014

Medina City Hall

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The Park Commission of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on January 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Medina City Hall. Park Commission Vice Chair Ann Thies presided.

1) Call to Order

Commissioners Present: Ann Thies, Ellis Olkon, Dino DesLauriers, Madeleine Linck, and Steve Lee

Commissioners Absent: Paul Jaeb and Janet White

Also Present: Assistant to City Administrator Jodi Gallup

2) Appointment of Officers: Chair, Vice Chair & Secretary

A motion was made by Linck to nominate and appoint Ellis Olkon as Chair. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

A motion was made by Lee and seconded by Olkon to nominate and appoint Ann Thies as Chair.

A motion was made by DesLauriers and seconded by Lee to nominate and appoint Paul Jaeb as Chair.

A vote was taken and four voted in favor of Thies and one voted in favor of Jaeb. Motion to appoint Ann Thies as Chair passed (4-1).

A motion was made by Lee and seconded by DesLauriers to nominate and appoint Madeleine Linck as Vice Chair. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by DesLauriers and seconded by Linck to nominate and appoint Steve Lee as Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.

3) Additions to the Agenda: Olkon wanted to discuss Dog Parks. There was a general consensus to discuss it as part of the 2014 goal setting session.

4) Approval of Minutes:

• **December 18, 2013 Regular Meeting**

A motion was made by Linck and seconded by DesLauriers, to approve the minutes from December 18, 2013 with no changes. Motion passed (Thies abstained).

5) Public Comments (on items not on the agenda): None.

6) City Council Update

Linck updated the Park Commission on recent City Council actions.

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7) 2014 Goal Setting Session

The Park Commission created the following goals for 2014:

- Plan the Spring Park Tour in February or March.
- Discuss possible participation in Clean-up Day at the March meeting.
- Discuss holding a bird watch/nature walk at the April meeting.
- Review the Capital Improvement Plan at the June meeting.
- Discuss participation in Medina Celebration Day at the August meeting.
- Watch for and review upcoming grant possibilities as they become available.
- Finalize the Park and Trail Master Plan, noting that this is a working document and changes may be made to it regularly. It was also noted that Park Commissioners should bring this document to all future meetings.
- Finalize Message Centers at the February or March meeting.
- Complete all the improvements in the Park at Fields of Medina.
- Review in detail two city parks at each meeting this year. The Park Commission should take site visits to the parks that will be discussed prior to the meeting to come prepared to discuss any issues or improvements needed in each park. The first two parks to be reviewed will be Medina Morningside Park & Maple Park at the February meeting.
- Investigate what uses Medina residents can have at the Hennepin County Public Works property such as use of trails or a potential dog park.
- Replace the interpretive sign at Holy Name Park.

The Park Commission reviewed the Planned Park Improvements document that was removed from the Master Plan to allow the Park Commission to update it on a more regular schedule. The following changes were noted:

- Create two categories for improvements in Hamel Legion Park, City improvements and HAC improvements
- Look further into solar trail lights and a snow machine at Hamel Legion Park in 2014
- Add possible soccer nets in 2014 at Hamel Legion Park, Maple Park, and Medina Morningside Park
- Clean up the nature trail at Medina Lake Preserve, after the city can obtain access
- Create or update the maintenance plan at Rainwater Nature Area
- Regularly mow the trail through Rainwater Nature Area
- Look into building a new bridge over the creek at Rainwater Nature Area in 2015
- Look into obtaining the northeast corner of Tomann Preserve in 2014

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Olkon reported that he had conversations with Council members regarding the dog park and believed that he could get them all on board. He noted that Pederson had voted no for a dog park last fall because he thought a paved parking lot would cost too much money. After Olkon discussed the idea with him further, he seemed to be on board as long as it did not cost too much money. Olkon noted that the parking lot does not need to be paved or the dog park could be placed in an existing park that already has a parking lot.

Discussion took place on the possible location of a dog park in the nature area at Hunter Lions Park. It was noted that the park already has an existing parking lot, but there was concern with neighboring properties, dog owners having to walk their dogs past the playground and how dog waste would get picked up since a vehicle could not drive back there to empty garbage containers.

It was determined that the dog park subcommittee would continue to meet to discuss possible locations for a future dog park and further look into the city ordinances regulating dogs.

8) Park & Trail Master Plan

The Park Commission reviewed the final draft of the Park & Trail Master Plan and noted the following changes:

- Include the roman numeral numbering on the table of contents in each section of the plan.
- Update the Medina Park System Inventory to include equestrian trails.
- On the Future Facility Development page, remove the sentence that states the commission anticipates two to four new neighborhood parks and no new community parks within the next twenty years based on development.
- Add the Rainwater Maintenance Plan and the Conservation Easement for Tomann Preserve to Exhibit F.
- Include the Friends of the Park Program Approved Project List and review it annually.
- Other small grammatical changes were noted.

9) Staff Report

- a) 2014 Park Commission Representation at Council Meetings – An updated roster was distributed for Park Commission representation at the City Council meetings in 2014.
- b) General Items – Gallup reported that the sign layouts were not ready for review at this meeting and would hopefully be brought back to the February meeting.

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10) Adjourn

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by DesLauriers and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jodi Gallup.