

Medina Park Commission Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2017
Medina City Hall
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The Park Commission of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on February 15, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Medina City Hall. Park Commission Chair Steve Lee presided.

1) Call to Order

Commissioners Present: Steve Lee, Lori Meehan, Lisa Cole, Elizabeth Weir and John Jacob
Commissioners Absent: Jeff Rumsey and Michelle Beddor
Also Present: Assistant City Administrator Jodi Gallup, Public Works Director Steve Scherer and City Council member Lorie Cousineau

2) Additions to the Agenda

None

3) Approval of the Minutes from:

January 18, 2017 Regular Meeting

- *Page 3, paragraph 4: She noted that the existing private horse trail was ~~small~~ narrow and...*

A motion was made by Weir and seconded by Jacob to approve the minutes from January 18, 2017 with the noted change. Motion passed unanimously.

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

5) City Council Update

Lorie Cousineau gave the Park Commission an update on recent City Council actions.

6) Lunski, Inc. – Senior Housing/Office Concept Plan – Park Dedication Review

Gallup presented the staff report stating that the applicant has requested a concept plan review for an 80 unit, three-story senior assisted/independent living facility and commercial/medical office development North of Highway 55, South of Chippewa Road, and west of Mohawk Drive. She stated that the site is 10.8 acres with a 2.6 acre wetland in the center.

Gallup reminded the Park Commission that this is a concept plan review, which is purely advisory and no formal action needed to be taken tonight.

Gallup explained that the City could take land, cash or a combination of the two for park dedication purposes. If the City took 10% of the land for park dedication it would be approximately 0.82 acres. If the City took the 8% cash-in-lieu it would be estimated as \$47,000.

The Park Commissioners reviewed a map of the surrounding area and discussed the subject property in relation to the Future Park and Trail map. It was noted that this area is circled on the map as a future study area for a park. There was a general preference to focus on taking land for a park in one of the larger future proposed residential sites to the north of this site.

There was a general consensus of the Park Commission to take an easement along Chippewa Road for a ten foot wide trail. The Park Commission would also like to see the applicant's internal trails connecting to the city trail. It was noted that the remaining dedication would be taken in cash.

7) Hamel Road – Rainwater Nature Area Trail Connection & Hennepin County's 2017 Sidewalk & Bikeway Grant Application

Scherer explained the two trail connection options that were put together by City Engineer Jim Stremel. The proposed project breaks down into two separate segments: one along Pinto Drive from Hamel Road to Tower Drive; and one along Hamel Road from Rainwater Park across Elm Creek. He noted that staff recommends that the project be broken down in this way for the grant application. The segment crossing Elm Creek is substantially more expensive and if the project is broken down into two parts, it may be possible that the smaller portion of the project is funded even if the larger project is not.

Scherer stated that these trails would further expand the trail connected along Hamel Road last year and connect to the trail being constructed this year in connection with the County Road 116/Highway 55 project. He stated that we would only have one missing piece that could be completed by a future developer.

Scherer asked for the Park Commission's endorsement for the City to apply for a grant for up to \$100,000 of the project through Hennepin County's 2017 sidewalk and bikeway grant program. He noted that the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) has budgeted \$75,000 for the Elm Creek crossing in Rainwater Nature area and the CIP sets aside \$250,000 each year for land acquisition and new trail development projects.

A motion was made by Meehan, and seconded by Weir to recommend moving forward with the grant application and the use of CIP Park Dedication funds for the project. Motion passed unanimously.

8) 2017 Goal Setting Session

The Park Commission discussed their list of annual goals for the year. The following actions were taken:

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- Scheduled the annual park tour for April 19th beginning at 5 p.m.
- Decided to begin reviewing the Park and Trail Master Plan at their March 15th meeting.
- Discussed creating a trail subcommittee to update the trail plan.
- Discussed creating a formal park and trail donation program.
- Assigned parks to each of the Park Commissioners:
 - Weir: Holy Name Park & City Hall
 - Jacob: Rainwater Nature Area
 - Meehan: Lakeshore Park & Walnut Park
 - Cole: The Park at Fields of Medina
 - Rumsey: Hunter Lions Park
 - Beddor: Tomann Preserve
 - Lee: Hamel Legion Park and Maple Park
 - Kingsley: Medina Morningside Park
 - Lubenow: Medina Lake Preserve
- Discussed purchasing a portable snow machine for the sledding hills.
- Discussed dugout covers at Hamel Legion Park.
- Discussed lakeshore restoration and a bench by the water at Lakeshore Park.
- Discussed the location for a volleyball court at the Park at Fields of Medina.
- Removed looking into a backboard for the tennis courts at the Park at Fields of Medina.

9) Staff Report

Gallup reported:

- Staff has had two meetings with the new Hamel Athletic Club board members. The 2017 contract has been approved, and now we are discussing action items for the 2017 season and beyond. Their top priority is to get dugout covers on the quad field and they hope to have a proposal before the Park Commission at our March meeting.
- The Public Works crew cleaned up a large number of dead trees in the City owned wooded area of Reserve of Medina.

10) Adjourn

A motion was made by Weir, seconded by Meehan and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jodi Gallup.