

Medina Park Commission Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2013

Medina City Hall

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The Park Commission of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on April 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Medina City Hall. Park Commission Chair Paul Jaeb presided.

**1) Call to Order**

Commissioners Present: Paul Jaeb, Ellis Olkon, Dino DesLauriers, Madeleine Linck, Ann Thies, Janet White, and Steve Lee

Commissioners Absent: None

Also Present: City Planner Dusty Finke, Public Works Director Steve Scherer and City Council member Melissa Martinson

**2) Additions to the Agenda:** Linck requested discussing the nature walk. There was a general consensus to discuss during the staff report.

**3) Approval of Minutes:**

- **March 20, 2013** – Page two – Canvass was misspelled; it should be canvas.

*A motion was made by Thies and seconded by Linck to approve the minutes as amended from March 20, 2013. Motion passed unanimously.*

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

**5) City Council Update**

Martinson updated the Park Commission on recent City Council actions.

**6) Toll Brothers – Reserve of Medina – Park Dedication Discussion**

Finke presented the information provided in the staff report. He stated that the proposed subdivision includes 126 homes on 80 acres. Approximately 70 acres are buildable. The City reviewed a concept plan in the fall of 2012, the main purpose of which was to decide if the City desired an active park in this location. The Park Commission and City Council did not show much interest. Finke noted that the City could require 10% of the buildable property, a cash fee in-lieu of land dedication, or a combination of land and cash. He stated that, in this case, the options were up to 6.98 acre, \$678,650, or a combination of the two.

Finke noted that the applicant proposes to preserve Outlot D, the wooded area in the southeast corner of the site. The applicant requests that Outlot D be subtracted from the net acreage of the site for calculating density because they would fall below the density range if it were included in the acreage of the site. Finke stated that only public parks

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and open spaces can be subtracted, so the City would need to accept Outlot D as public property in order to do so.

Finke stated that staff recommended requiring the dedication of a trail corridor along Hackamore, a trail corridor connection from Outlot D to "Lilium Trail", and requiring \$604,588.78 in cash.

Jaeb inquired if the City would receive less cash if Outlot D was accepted for public ownership.

Finke replied that staff did not recommend requiring Outlot D for park dedication, but said that due consideration would be given if the applicant wished to deed it to the City and the City was willing to accept it.

Lee asked if the City could require additional cash to account for public maintenance of Outlot D.

Finke replied that staff would not recommend such a requirement because it would blur the line of what was being required for park fees versus what was being accepted as proposed by the applicant. Finke also noted that the City is required to give "due consideration" for private recreational and open space amenities.

Commissioners discussed concerns that the 20' trail easement may not provide sufficient access to Outlot D for construction of a trail, and certainly not maintenance.

Finke stated that the City could condition approval on better access, and not to let that color the discussion about whether or not to accept the granting of Outlot D.

*A motion was made by Thies and seconded by Linck to recommend that the City Council accept (but not require) the granting of Outlot D to the public subject to adequate provision for access to be determined by staff. Also to recommend to the City Council that the City require the dedication of land for trail corridors along Hackamore and between Lilium Trail and Outlot D, and requiring cash-in-lieu of additional land dedication. Motion passed unanimously.*

**7) Park & Trail Master Plan Re view**

Jaeb stated that Jodi Gallup and he have reviewed a number of park master plans in communities similar to Medina throughout the country. Based on information collected

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from these plans and reviewing the City of Medina's draft plan, there has been a series of amendments made to the plan.

Jaeb thanked the trail subcommittee for their work and thought the plan has been improved.

Linck stated that she will provide staff with grammatical changes.

The amendments below were discussed by the Park Commission:

Page 8: Add reference to winter recreation

Page 11: Define MLCCS

Page 14: Unpaved trail, Thies to provide language about off-setting the shoulders

Page 16: Address for Wolsfeld

Page 21: Update description to remove "rural" and speak of increasing use because of development – Jaeb will provide this information

Exhibit B: Add language related to the invasive species program at Lakeshore

Page 27: bird houses/wildlife habitat. Remove "Potential Future"

Page 31: bird houses; Wildlife habitat viewing

Page 35: remove establish walking paths

Page 39: Wild Meadows park; Baker Park is not county. Metropolitan "area" park system. Thies or Linck to provide.

Map: Trail map; remove Reserve circle; color change;

Trail Map: Leave the "discuss paving" update "discuss"

Jaeb requested that Commissioners leave their plans with grammatical errors. Staff will make copies and return to Commissioners who wish.

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**8) Staff Report**

- Linck stated that she would be happy to lead a nature walk, but worries that no one will show up. She suggested Thursday, June 20, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at Tomann Preserve. The event will be advertised in the next *Medina Message* newsletter.
- Upcoming Meetings: It was noted that the next Park Commission meeting will be on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. for the annual park tour. The Park Commission will also be having a joint meeting with the City Council on Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 p.m. to present the Master Plan.

**9) Adjourn**

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

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.**

Minutes prepared by Dusty Finke.