

Medina Park Commission Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2011

Medina City Hall

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The Park Commission of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on April 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Medina City Hall. Park Commission Chair Janet White presided.

1) Call to Order

Commissioners present: Janet White, Jean Beaupre, Ben Benson, Madeleine Linck, Bill Waytas and Ann Thies

Also Present: Public Works Superintendent Steve Scherer and City Council member Melissa Martinson, Pemton representatives Dan Herbst & Dave Nasin, Mr. & Mrs. Jubert, City Planning Consultant Nate Sparks

2) Additions to the Agenda:

White would like to add a discussion on distance signage at Hamel Legion Park. This is to be discussed before the staff report.

3) Approval of Minutes

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- Page 3: 2nd Paragraph: Linck state that the Buckthorn would need to be removed early in the season prior to any animals-birds starting to nest in it.

*A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with the noted changes.
Motion passed unanimously*

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

5) City Council Update:

Martinson gave an update from the City Council meeting as follows:

- Chad Adams resigned to take a position at Albert Lea. May transitions with plans of hiring an interim while the search for a replacement administrator takes place.
- Hennepin County police 911 is looking for a potential new location, since the demand is growing in this area.
- The City is looking at hunting regulations and laws with consideration to the developments.
- Hamel Athletic club wants some portable toilets in Hamel Legion Park. They asked for three (3) portable toilets. The City has approved two (2) to be allowed for safety and traffic reasons which were discussed.

6) Pemtom Presentations:

Application for a mixed use stage 1 plan is under review. This stage for the Park Commission is more of a requirement then a recommendation. This development is to be located North of Highway 55 and west of 116. Areas that are included: Jubert's and Rolling Green Business Center. This development consists of roughly 63 single family homes and 130 town homes to bring in density to the area. (Stage 2 will come for recommendations also.)

Martinson asked about price points, but this will be discussed at the next stage of the process. The document provided is a changing product, but Pemtom has asked the Park

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Commission to compare the park's comprehensive plan to the one they are proposing for the park and trail area. The comprehensive plan is in area 1 of the active study area 1. It also includes a trail through the area from east to west through the property. The proposal for the park area in this development was explained. It would include potentially totaling 10 acres of active park with ball fields and access with parking. The current plan does not include all 10 acres, but it was suggested that to complete the 10 acres the plan could include town home development acreage, which would add an additional 3 acres. This would also allow for trail connectivity. There was discussion concerning putting a trail in the right of way for cost saving measures. The trail could connect to existing and future planned trails.

Tamarack ending at future Meander Road was also discussed, which would be the entrance to the park. The idea was discussed to have the trail connect with a location in the Foxberry Farm development, but would take work in connecting with the HOA of Foxberry. The Park Commission unanimously decided this was a good idea to explore and that a report of the area to connect with should be researched and presented. The major concern discussed was the definition between a homeowner's yard and the maintenance issues for the trail area. Linck asked about the ordinance of wetland preservation. Nate clarified that there is an ordinance about buffering of 30'. Thies discussed separation from the sidewalk and road. Scherer clarified it would be a raised curb and could potentially be separated. A traffic study needs to be done to determine traffic light/speed, as this is a concern of the Park Commission as well.

Herbst shared his background with the companies. He would like the Park Commission to look at the Locus property in Wayzata to see an example of work that Pemtom has recently completed. Dan is partnering with Madame Homes to work on this project. Originally this project was to be proposed on the Cavanaugh property to the West, but because of fee structures for sewer & water this was too costly and no longer feasible. Herbst answered Martinson's earlier question on cost of the town homes ranging from \$175,000-250,000. It was discussed that these town homes may be hard for families in this area to afford. The single family homes will range from \$350-490,000. Stage two (2) of this project will bring in floor plans.

After discussion the Park Commission summarized that they are in agreement with the following items:

- East-West Trail through development
- North-South corridor to 55 needs to be reviewed
- The internal development needs to be reviewed
- The trail system through Foxberry Farms needs to be explored by discussing the connection with HOA
- A pedestrian system through the development is necessary
- Open space does not need to be studied, because the City has ordinances for this, Thies states.

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These agreements were motioned and unanimously passed.

7) Hamel Library Relocation Request

The library relocation is to be discussed with the Park Commission, but it is currently not in ownership to be located at current spot. In relation to the provided map it was discussed that spot one (1) and two (2) blending and water issues, three (3) would work well, four (4) potential water demonstration area, four (4) and five (5) block entrances and six (6) is not visible. It was also shared by Scherer that the mural could be moved so that it would not be hidden from view. Benson strongly recommends location three (3) to the Park Commission.

Benson motioned and it was seconded to approve location three (3). Motion passed unanimously.

8) Park Landscaping Projects

Benson would like to request financial help from the Hamel Athletic Club for trees. Beaupre & Scherer will do further research on the finalization of plants. The crab trees were set as a high priority to be accomplished this spring at Hamel Legion Park.

9) Distance Markers on Trail

The Park Commission was unanimously in agreement about the addition of distance markers on the trails at Hamel Legion Park for pedestrian use. White is going to do research on the variety of signage that could be put in.

10) Staff Report

- Scherer updated the Park Commission on the \$25,000 Ball Field grant. Staff would bid out this project and then would choose best bid to write the proposal around. Late summer the supplier & design would be picked to insure using all \$25,000 this year and then in the fall apply again for more. The Hamel Athletic Association has agreed to pay for 25% of the cost. This is a formal bid procedure since this project is over a certain dollar amount. Bonestroo has to put bids together. This will show our dedication and also show the Lennar development that this area will be lit.
- The staff and Park Commission unanimously agreed that Playful Cities would be something that we would not continue with. They are not sure another task force of volunteers can be created at this time, nor does the City necessarily have the need for this sort of initiative. Neither the Park Commission nor the City Staff will execute this project at this time.

11) Meeting Adjourn

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

Minutes prepared by Jean Beaupre.