

Medina Park Commission Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2009

Medina Park Tour

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The Park Commission of Medina, Minnesota met in special session on May 16, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. Park Commission Chair Ann Thies presided.

1) **Call to Order**

Commissioners present: Ann Thies, Ben Benson, Madeleine Linck, Paul Jaeb, and Chris Hilberg

Commissioners absent: Brian Kingsley and Janet White

Also present: City Council Member Carolyn Smith, Planning Commissioner Robin Reid, Public Works Superintendent Steve Scherer, and Assistant to Public Works Linda Lane.

2.) **Annual Park Tour**

Medina Morningside

Screening

Scherer mentioned the large amount of buckthorn that has taken over the screened hedge that runs along the north side of the park. Discussion concerned what should be planted in its place when the buckthorn is removed. Neighbors have asked about having the old screening on the east side of the park cleaned out and putting in shorter bushes. Scherer said he will contact local resources on what should be done. When the Park Commission moved over towards the well house, Smith asked if the City could add some screening around the well house similar to what was done along the tank.

Playground Area

There were comments as to how nice the playground equipment looked, but that there was a need for more wood chips on the ground around the play area. Scherer said Public Works was going to be bringing a load of chips to each of the parks that needed them.

Recycle Containers

It was also mentioned that there was no recycle container by the garbage container. Scherer also said that the wood trash containers inside the park would need to be replaced soon and should be put on the CIP for 2010.

Park Sign

There was discussion concerning where the sign for Medina Morningside Park would be placed and the fact that all the entrance signs would need to be back-to-back, so to be seen from traffic going both directions.

Holy Name Lake / Park

Park Sign

Discussion occurred on where the two-sided park sign would be placed. The consensus was to place the sign closer to the road along the west side of the driveway so it could be seen by traffic coming from both directions. There was also discussion concerning the demonstration sign that

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is being made for the park and where it should be placed. There was a general consensus to place it on the corner near the permeable pavers.

Grass

It was mentioned to place posts along both sides of the driveway coming into the park to keep people from cutting the corners and ruining the grass.

Linck mentioned that the netting that was placed on the straw for erosion control could be harmful to animals, as they can easily get caught in it. Scherer said he would take care of the netting issue.

Rain Garden and Lakeshore area

Rain garden plants were starting to come in, but Scherer asked Lane to check into what species were planted, how many, and which ones should be coming in early. Lane will also be calling the company that planted the rain garden to have them look at it and determine if it is coming along as it should, or if the City needs to look at replacing some of the plants, and also what kind of a maintenance contract we have for the gardens. It was suggested to add stepping stones from the bottom of the trail to the rain garden. There was also some discussion concerning not mowing so close to the water; Scherer said he would let the new lawn mowing company know about the appropriate buffer to the lake.

Hamel Legion Park

Park Signs

After some discussion, the consensus of the group was to have a small two-sided sign coming in off Hamel Road on Mill Drive and then another larger one-sided sign at an angle as the road takes a left to go into the parking lot. There would also be another two-sided sign at the entrance to the park off Brockton Lane.

Screening

Park Commission members once again spoke concerning the screening they feel is needed along the back stop for the baseball field to the left of the community building. Scherer said he would speak with the Athletic Association concerning what could be done. He also said it should be put on the CIP for next year so we would have the funds necessary to buy the plantings.

Donated Benches, Tables, Etc.

The Park Commission preferred that the donation signs on donated items such as benches and tables be more subtle.

Rainwater Nature Area

Park Sign

There was some discussion concerning where the two-sided park sign should be placed, since not only traffic from both ways would need to be able to read it, but also the traffic off Hunter Road.

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It was decided that the sign should be approximately half way between the trail and Hamel Road, and half way lengthwise where the trail begins and ends.

Phase II Plantings

Scherer showed the Park Commissioners all the trees and shrubs that were planted for the Phase II plan for Rainwater Nature Area. He also moved the stakes in several feet that were along the road for future trees that were to be planted.

Screening and Seeding

There was a request to have the electrical boxes screened and also to get some grass seeding along the trail.

Walnut Park

Stormwater Project

Scherer showed the Park Commission the stormwater project the Public Works staff has been working on at Walnut Park.

Skating/Volleyball Area

Since there was grass covering a large portion of the sandy area that has been used in the past as a sand volleyball court, there was a consensus to let the grass come in and mow that area this year so kids could play on it. It would still be flooded in the winter for skating, since it is a popular spot.

Lakeshore Park

Boat Launch

The Park Commission walked down to the boat launch to look at some erosion that was happening alongside the boat launch and along the lakeshore. Scherer suggested doing some riprap, which will be filled with dirt, and also plantings to keep the erosion from getting worse.

Picnic Shelter

The picnic table located in the picnic shelter is badly in need of replacement.

Miscellaneous Items

Scherer needs to look into horseshoe pits, the recycling container needs to be labeled as such, and there needs to be more wood chips placed on the ground around the playground area.

3.) Adjourn at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Linda Lane