

Medina Park Commission Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2013

Medina City Hall

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The Park Commission of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on June 19, 2013 at 7:04 p.m. in the Medina City Hall. Park Commission Vice Chair Ann Thies presided.

1) Call to Order

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

Commissioners Absent: Paul Jaeb

Also Present: Assistant to City Administrator Jodi Gallup and Public Works Director Steve Scherer

2) Additions to the Agenda: None.

3) Approval of Minutes:

• **April 17, 2013 Regular Meeting**

A motion was made by Olkon and seconded by Lee to approve the minutes as presented from April 17, 2013. Motion passed unanimously.

• **May 15, 2013 Park Tour Special Meeting**

A motion was made by Linck and seconded by White to approve the minutes as presented from May 15, 2013. Motion passed unanimously.

• **May 21, 2013 Regular Meeting**

A motion was made by DesLauriers and seconded by Linck to approve the minutes as presented from May 21, 2013. Motion passed unanimously.

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

5) City Council Update

Scherer updated the Park Commission on recent City Council actions.

6) Park & Trail Master Plan Review – Discuss City Council Comments

Staff prepared a memo that addressed items for discussion and items that did not warrant discussion that staff could change administratively from the comments made by Mayor Weir and Council member Martin on the Park and Trail Master Plan. The Park Commission was in consensus with all the recommended changes that didn't warrant further discussion. The Park Commission discussed further the items listed below:

- The Park Commission will consider the possibility of solar trail lights at Hamel Legion Park when the time comes to install lights.
- The existing Park & Trail Map will list quasi-public sites such as City Hall, but it was not recommended to name the site "Wolsfeld Cabin Park".

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- Listing the area around Hidden Lake as future preserved is already achieved in the Comprehensive Plan study area map.
- It was not recommended to consider the old sewage site off Pinto Drive as a future active or passive park since it is so close to the parks in the Hamel area.
- It was not recommended to list permanently preserved properties on the map because it may give the public the perception that these are public properties to be visited, which they are not.
- It was noted that the city wished to continue to use only the recycled plastic picnic tables and benches in our active parks because they are more durable, low maintenance, consist of recycled plastic materials, consistent throughout the parks, and heavy which makes it difficult for people to move or steal. Wood benches would only be considered in nature areas.
- Further discussion took place on the funding section. It was noted that user fees are not realistic in our parks because it would not bring in enough revenue to justify collecting the fee. It was also noted that collecting special assessments for trails would not be feasible. The plan will include language on the City's current rental fee charges for ball fields, picnic shelters, and the Hamel Community Building. A more thorough description will also be added to the plan describing the charts on pages 43-45.

Olkon brought up the idea of adding a future dog park to the Park Master Plan. It was determined that this would be a discussion item at the next Park Commission meeting.

Linck noted that she received permission from Hennepin County to install a Bluebird house along the limestone trail behind the Hennepin County Public Works Facility. She has been walking the trail to check on the bird house and questioned if this beautiful off road trail could be shown on the map as a public trail. Staff will contact Hennepin County to discuss this possibility.

7) The Park at Fields of Medina

Discussion took place on the type of sport surface the Park Commission would like to see at The Park at Fields of Medina. It was determined they would like to use the Sport Court material and have a tennis court and half basketball court. Further discussion took place regarding the size of the park and if these sport courts would fit along with the other planned amenities such as the trail, picnic shelter, playground, and full size soccer field. It was determined that if all these amenities do not fit in the park, the size of the soccer field could be reduced.

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8) Park Signage Proposal

Staff presented a new design proposal for customized message center signs within our parks. The new design has two panels, one that is printed with the park rules and map of the park and the other panel would be a bulletin board enclosed in glass. The sign also incorporates the city logo and current entrance sign material on the top. These signs would be done by the same company that did all the park entrance signs.

There was a general consensus of the Park Commission that this new sign design would better brand our parks. Staff will bring back a proposed design for the printed panels for the signs at Hamel Legion Park, Hunter Lions Park, and Lakeshore Park for further discussion.

9) 2014 Capital Improvement Plan

The Park Commission reviewed the Park Dedication fund balance and noted there is currently \$948,211 in the fund to be spent on future park and trail improvements.

The Park Commission reviewed the current Capital Improvement Plan and the programmed improvements listed out in the Park and Trail Master Plan. The following amendments were recommended to the 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- Increase general landscaping to \$10,000
- Increase small equipment/improvements to \$40,000
- Remove ball field lights
- Move picnic shelter at Holy Name Park from 2016 to 2015
- Move bridge at Rainwater Nature area from 2014 to 2015
- Reduce the Park at Fields of Medina to \$20,000 in 2014 and \$20,000 in 2015

A motion was made by Lee and seconded by DesLauriers to recommend approval of the 2014 Capital Improvement Plan with the noted changes. Motion passed unanimously.

10) Staff Report

- New Park Sign - Staff showed the Park Commission what the sign panel will look at like the Park at Fields of Medina. It was noted that it will be a two-sided monument sign similar to the City Hall sign.
- Nature Walk – Linck reported that no one had signed up for the nature walk that was scheduled to take place on June 20th at Tomann Preserve. Linck stated that she planned on stopping by to check the bird houses in case someone showed up that did not RSVP.

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11) Adjourn

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jodi Gallup.