

Medina Park Commission Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2012

Medina City Hall

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The Park Commission of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on October 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Medina City Hall. Park Commission Chair Paul Jaeb presided.

**1) Call to Order**

Commissioners Present: Paul Jaeb, Ben Benson, Ann Thies, Ellis Olkon, Dino DesLauriers, and Bill Waytas

Commissioners Absent: Madeleine Linck

Also Present: Planner Dusty Finke, Assistant to City Administrator Jodi Gallup and Public Works Superintendent Steve Scherer

**2) Additions to the Agenda:** “Hamel Snow Runners Request” after City Council update

*A motion was made by Benson and seconded by Olkon to add the Hamel Snow Runners Request after the City Council Update. Motion passed unanimously.*

**3) Approval of Minutes:**

- **September 19, 2012** – no changes.

*A motion was made by Benson and seconded by DesLauriers to approve the minutes from September 19, 2012 with no changes. Motion passed unanimously.*

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

**5) City Council Update**

Staff updated the Park Commission on recent City Council actions.

**6) Hamel Snow Runners Request**

Scherer reported that the Hamel Snow Runners have approached the city requesting to change the route of their snowmobile trail through Hamel Legion Park because the old route used to cut through the field where homes are now being built by Lennar. They are proposing to have their snowmobile route run through the Church of Saint Anne’s property, through the Fortin property, into Hamel Legion Park by the sledding hill and then head east between the ball fields and head out of the park to the open field on the other side of Brockton.

The Park Commission discussed the proposed route and noted that if it went forward, the six property owners on the east side of the park off Brockton would need to be notified and give their consent. The idea of allowing motorized vehicles in the park was also

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discussed. It was noted that the park ordinance allows for snowmobiles as long as they are on designated snowmobile trails.

The Park Commission noted that there would be more activity in the park with all the new homes being built right now in the Enclave at Medina and Enclave at Brockton. They were concerned with the safety of residents using the sledding hill and ice rink, while snowmobiles drove past.

The Park Commission requested that Steve Scherer look into an alternate route that would run near the railroad tracks, but if that route does not work, they recommended authorizing a one year trial to allow the snowmobiles to run through Hamel Legion Park on their proposed route. It was noted that the Hamel Snow Runners would have to start looking for a different route in future years as the park would be too busy to allow for this type of activity.

**7) Master Plan Discussion**

The Park Commission took part in a planning exercise, which allowed them to use cut-out shapes of different park amenities that were created to scale and place them on a plat map of the park land in the Fields of Medina development.

It was determined that the park would have a playground and at least one picnic shelter. Discussion took place on having some type of multi-function sport court, but it was determined that more research was needed before a decision would be made.

The Park Commission liked the idea of a trail along the perimeter of the park. It was noted that the trail would be approximately half a mile long.

Discussion took place about creating a regulation soccer field at this park. It was determined that additional parking spaces would need to be put in the plan if organized sports happened at this location.

Discussion took place regarding the future need for a water tower at this location. It was determined that the water tower should be located at the west end of the park.

Discussion also took place regarding the name of the park. Park Commissioners were to email Jodi Gallup on possible names and it would be discussed further at the next meeting.

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The Park Commission tentatively created a programmed improvement timeline for this park, which will be as follows:

2013 – Seed and grade park; carve out walking path

2014 – Install playground, picnic shelter, and parking lot

2015 – Install sport court or other court surface

2016 – Install second picnic shelter

The Park Commission received a packet of information regarding putting message center/display boards at various city parks. A brief discussion took place regarding allowing businesses to purchase the display boards to receive a permanent plaque on it stating that it was donated by that particular business. Jaeb and Gallup will do additional research on the display boards and bring back a few options for further discussion.

### 8) Staff Report

- a. Gate at Lakeshore Park Boat Launch Update: Gallup contacted LICA to get feedback on how they felt the gate was working at Lakeshore Park. Almost all the feedback from LICA regarding the gate was positive. There was only one complaint regarding the city's need to know the DNR boat registration number. LICA thanked the city for their efforts in keeping AIS out of Lake Independence.
- b. Medina Lake Preserve Access Update: Scherer gave a brief update that he has been talking to the third property owner off Arrowhead to try to get access to Medina Lake Preserve.
- c. Willow Trail Update: Scherer showed pictures of the trees and brush that had been removed from the right-of-way in preparation for the construction of the trail along Willow Trail.
- d. General Items: Gallup reminded the Park Commission that Bill Waytas and Ben Benson's terms were up at the end of the year and asked them to consider if they are going to re-apply. Gallup also reminded everyone that the November Park Commission meeting date has been pushed back one week because of the Thanksgiving holiday. The next Park Commission meeting will be on Wednesday, November 28, 2012 at 7 p.m.

### 9) Adjourn

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

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.**

Minutes prepared by Jodi Gallup.