

Medina Park Commission Meeting Minutes  
April 17, 2019  
Medina City Hall  
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The Park Commission of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on April 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Medina City Hall. Park Commission Chair Steve Lee presided.

**1) Call to Order**

Commissioners Present: Steve Lee, Jeff Rumsey, Ann Thies, Terry Sharp

Commissioners Absent: John Jacob, Mary Morrison, Elizabeth Weir

Also Present: City Council Member John Anderson, Public Works Director Steve Scherer, and Assistant City Administrator Jodi Gallup

**2) Additions to the Agenda:** None

**3) Approval of the Minutes from:**

March 20, 2019 Regular Meeting

*A motion was made by Thies and seconded by Rumsey to approve the minutes from March 20, 2019 with two corrections: Page 1, under "Also present", add John Anderson; Page 3, under "staff report", change "suggesting" to "suggested". Motion passed unanimously.*

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

**5) City Council Update**

Council Member Anderson updated the Park Commission on recent actions of the City Council.

**6) Patricia Raskob Trust – Preliminary Plat – 500 Hamel Road**

Gallup provided a summary from the staff report noting the applicant, Patricia Raskob Trust, has requested a subdivision of approximately 8.63 acres of property into two lots at 500 Hamel Road. The west lot would be 6.72 acres and the east lot would be 1.78 acres.

Gallup stated that the City's subdivision ordinance requires the following to be dedicated for parks, trails, and public open space purposes, at the City's option:

- Up to 10% of the buildable land, which would be 0.43 acres
- Cash-in-lieu of land at 8% of the pre-developed market value, which would be \$56,000 based on minimum density
- Combination of land and cash.

The Park Commission reviewed the City's Park and Trail Map and determined there is a proposed trail along this property on Hamel Road, but no need for a future park on this

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site. It was noted that staff believes the trail can be accommodated within the right-of-way.

Lee questioned if a development on the east lot would have a negative impact on Rainwater Park? He advised that the Park Commission would like to make sure any development on the lot would not have a negative impact on the park.

Gallup stated that the applicant has asked to defer payment of the park dedication fees until a building permit is pulled for the project. She stated that staff recommends accommodating the fee deferral through an agreement. She also noted by deferring the fee, it provides the city with an opportunity to collect a larger fee if the density is higher than the minimum.

*A motion was made by Thies and seconded by Rumsey to recommend to the City Council to take cash-in-lieu of land, presuming the lot split is feasible and the trail extension can be accomplished within the right-of-way, and allowing the applicant to defer the park dedication fee through an agreement. Motion passed unanimously.*

**7) Hamel Athletic Club**

Hamel Athletic Club (HAC) President Mike Mohs and Treasurer Mike Kneller introduced themselves to the Park Commission and provided a brief history of the baseball program. Kneller noted that 2019 registration numbers were up to 421 kids. The program boundaries are for kids within the Wayzata School District and the City of Medina.

Kneller and Mohs provided the Park Commission with a three-year highlight stating:

- HAC and the City of Medina have had an outstanding partnership
- HAC regained good standing with IRS, local sports store, and umpires
- Registration numbers continue growing
- Park Improvements that have been made include:
  - Musco LED lighting on lighted field, which was a joint project with the City, Twins, and HAC
  - New dugouts and team benches on the lighted field, which was a joint project with City and HAC
  - HAC installed four bullpens with improved chain link borders
  - HAC paid to install a new outfield fence on the Little League field to meet 200' standard
- HAC outsourced a sponsorship coordinator
- HAC recruited four new board members in last twelve months

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- Honey and Mackie's began operating the concession stand in 2018

Kneller noted that the previous batting cage netting was dismantled last year, following noise complaints and an insurance claim. He stated that HAC is in front of the Park Commission this evening to discuss the importance of having a batting cage for their program and either the possibility of relocating the batting cage to the outside of the third baseline or leaving the existing batting cage with added safety improvements.

Kneller received quotes to relocate the batting cage to the third baseline, which would cost \$37,990 with a full slab cage or cost \$22,385 for a partial slab cage. These quotes do not include adding the required chain link fencing, which would be another \$15,640 to fence all four sides.

Kneller stated that improving the safety at the existing batting cage location would save a substantial amount of the cost, because we already have the concrete slab, turf, and poles in place. The cost to upgrade the safety would be less than the quoted \$15,640, because only three sides would need new fencing. There would also be cost to purchase new double netting and install signage.

The Park Commission discussed the issues at the existing site, which were mainly that people were batting the wrong direction (toward homes), the noise of the bat hitting the ball on Saturday and Sunday mornings, and balls escaping through the netting.

Gallup noted that the City's insurance stated the batting cage needed to be fenced to avoid balls escaping the netting, but the City did not complete the project last season to give us time to consider all our options.

The Park Commission felt leaving the existing location of the batting cage was more economical than building a new batting cage on the other side of the field, as long as the safety and noise issues were addressed such as signage for hitting direction, an added shade screen, signage with hours stating, "no hitting before 10 a.m.", new double netting, and adding a fence with a locked gate.

*A motion was made by Thies and seconded by Lee to recommend to the City Council to leave the batting cage in its current location, add double netting, approve the fence quote, incorporate a locked gate to be issued to approved users, send notice to the residents, provide a shade screen, add directional signage and hours of operation, and have HAC regularly inspect it. Motion passed unanimously.*

## 8) Trail Plan Update

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The Park Commission provided final comments on the updated Trail Plan. Thies stated she had a few more grammatical changes that she would give to Gallup. The Park Commission recommended adding segments A & B to trail 21.

*A motion was made by Lee and seconded by Rumsey to recommend adoption of the Trail Plan to the Medina City Council. Motion passed unanimously.*

**9) Municipal Park Funding – Resident Engagement Events**

The Park Commission reviewed the final resident engagement materials and volunteered to attend the following events:

- Medina Clean-up Day – April 27<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to noon
  - Volunteer: Steve Lee
- Lakeshore Park – Annual Ice Cream Social on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 2-5 p.m.
  - Volunteers: Mary Morrison, Elizabeth Weir, Steve Lee, Ann Thies, Terry Sharp
- Bike Safety Rodeo – Medina Police Department on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 11-2 p.m.
  - Volunteers: Elizabeth Weir, Terry Sharp, Jeff Rumsey, Ann Thies
- Hamel Baseball Jamboree – Hamel Legion Park – June 21 and June 22
  - Volunteers: Mary Morrison, Jeff Rumsey, Elizabeth Weir
- Night to Unite – Medina Morningside & Fields of Medina – August 6 from 6-8 p.m.
  - Volunteers: Medina Morningside: Ann Thies, Mary Morrison
  - Volunteers: Fields of Medina: Jeff Rumsey, Terry Sharp
- Fields of Medina Olympics – September 14
  - Volunteers:
- Medina Celebration Day – Hamel Legion Park – September 21 from 4-8 p.m.
  - Volunteers: Terry Sharp

**10) Staff Report**

- General Items – Staff reminded the Park Commission of the upcoming Park Tour dates on May 8<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>. Gallup stated she would follow-up with an email reminder.

**11) Adjourn**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Minutes prepared by Jodi Gallup