



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 2, 2007 - 6:30 p.m.**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Parks & Recreation Committee of the City of Centerville held the regularly scheduled May 2, 2007 meeting at City Hall, 1880 Main Street.

Present: Chairperson Suzanne Seeley
Vice-Chairperson Kevin Amundsen
Committee Member Darrin Mosher

Absent: Committee Member Kevin Selander
Committee Member Lori Harris

Council: Council Liaison Tom Lee

Staff: Staff Liaison Kim Stephan

Approved

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call

Chairperson Seeley called the May 2, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

II. SET AGENDA

Chairperson Seeley requested adding Mr. Trevor Weigel to the agenda under appearances to discuss his potential Eagle Scout Project. Chairperson Seeley also requested adding an update regarding certificates of appreciation to former Parks & Recreation Committee Members and a discussion of summer programs under updates.

Motion was made by Vice-Chairperson Amundsen, seconded by Committee Member Mosher, to set the May 2, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Agenda with the above additions. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

III. APPEARANCES

Mr. Trevor Weigel, Potential Eagle Scout Project at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park

Mr. Trevor Weigel has been working with the Parks & Recreation Committee on various proposals for an Eagle Scout Project and he has decided that he would like to renovate the monument sign area at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park. This area has been neglected for the last few years. Mr. Weigel

would like to redesign the retaining wall making a compete oval with two layers. He would then add natural grasses and flowering plants, along with mulch. The basic time line of this project would be to have it completed by August. City Staff has been looking at a variety of vendors for a City entrance sign, park sign for Hidden Spring Park and to replace the other park monument signs. Mr. Weigel would remove the old sign and install the new one. Mr. Weigel would do fund raising for approximately half of the project. This project needs to be approved by the Eagle Scout Council, which Mr. Weigel felt would take place next week. He will then submit a complete proposal with a budget.

Motion was made by Vice-Chairperson Amundsen, seconded by Chairperson Seeley to recommend to City Council supporting Mr. Weigel's Eagle Scout project as presented with potential for funding of half of the project not to exceed \$500. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Ollie & Co., Proposal for Skate Park Competition

Penny Evenson, Ollie & Co., an indoor skateboard park located in Ham Lake, had contacted City Staff regarding potential for a skateboard competition to be held at Wheels Skate Park and asked to be put on the Agenda for the May meeting. The proposal was provided for the committee's review, as well as a copy of their Certificate of Liability, the waiver that they require be signed by each competitor over 18, and parents of each competitor under 18, and the proposed methods of advertising for the event.

The event is being proposed for Saturday, June 16, 2007 with an alternate rain date of the following Saturday, June 23, 2007. The usual number of participants is 30 – 50 competitors. Ollie and Co. staff will include 3 of their 5 man competition team that recently finished 12th in the nation. This team will provide demonstrations, as well as be the judges. Each competitor will be given two (2) individual runs. Prizes are provided and a nominal fee is charged for each participant of \$5. Ollie and Co. insurance covers participants, staff and property. Helmets are required of all participants and will be proved by Ollie & Co. if necessary. First aid kits are on hand. Ollie & Co. Staff will clean the area following the event. Ollie & Co. also does camps, parades, and demonstrations if this is something the City would be interested in. The purpose of these events is to provide role models for the kids interested in this type of activity, give guidance and exposure to the indoor skate park.

Motion was made by Vice-Chairperson Amundsen, seconded by Chairperson Seeley to recommend to City Council approving the Skate Board Competition as proposed by Ollie & Co. providing the insurance information and waiver are approved by the City Attorney. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

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Vice-Chairperson Amundsen requested modifying the last paragraph on page 6 to reflect his position as Vice-Chairperson opposed to Chairperson Amundsen. Chairperson Seeley requested modifying paragraph 2, same page, changing the word addresses to addressed.

Motion was made by Chairperson Seeley, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Amundsen to approve the April 4, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes with the above corrections. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Tracie McBride Memorial Park Renovations

Committee Member Harris has been doing research on this project, but was not in attendance to discuss the project. While all committee members know it is important to do something with this park this year, it is difficult as the committee is down two members and Hidden Spring Park is taking all of their available time and energy at this point. Discussion was tabled until the next scheduled committee meeting.

1601 LaMotte Drive Park Improvements

Mr. Mark Statz, City Engineer, was in attendance to discuss the park improvements for Hidden Spring Park. The estimates for the bid are considerably higher than anticipated at approximately \$185,000 and this does not include estimates for electricity or lake shore restoration. Mr. Statz stated that the City Administrator was hopeful the City could obtain a grant for the lakeshore restoration so it was not included. The committee felt strongly that everything needed to be done all at one time, including the lake shore restoration because once the Downtown Redevelopment Project begins, the park will be put on the back burner and it will not get finished. Also it is more cost effective and efficient to do everything in the park at one time. Vice-Chairperson Amundsen reported in his conversations with the DNR, there are currently no grant monies available for lake shore restoration.

The committee and Mr. Statz went through the plan and discussed each item on the bid sheets.

The committee reviewed the plan for tree removal. Vice-Chairperson Amundsen marked some of the trees as cut, don't stump. Mr. Statz reported an additional tree will be removed near the street due to water service. Pine trees from Eagle Park will not be moved, nor will Public Works be able to relocate the lilac bushes at Hidden Spring Park as there is not a big enough spade attachment available for the Bobcat to successfully move these trees/shrubs. The estimated cost for moving the lilacs was \$5,000, which the committee felt was too expensive. The committee would then prefer all the lilac bushes be pulled out and new ones be purchased to use as a border on the south side of the property, feeling this would be the more economical option.

In looking at the water fountains, it was felt a pet fountain was not necessary, but a spigot should be available on at least one of the fountains, for cleanup purposes. Vice-Chairperson Amundsen questioned whether it would be more economical to move the water fountain closer to the street. Mr. Statz stated it would not make a significant cost savings.

The committee discussed the various types of picnic tables available and whether they needed to be bolted down. Vandalism to picnic tables has been an issue in other parks. The price for the tables on the bid sheet was approximately \$10,000 which the committee felt was exceptionally high for tables. Mr. Statz said that the lilacs, the picnic tables and the lake shore restoration could be included on the bid sheet as alternatives. The committee would like more research done on tables.

Mr. Statz informed the committee that interpretive signage is not part of the bid because of the price; the City Administrator would like to look at other options. Vice-Chairperson Amundsen stated he does graphic design and he can look into this also. The committee discussed what could be taken out of the bid sheet to save money, such as electrical, lake shore restoration, interpretive signs, picnic tables, but taking out these amenities are not where the bulk of the expenses are. And although the budget is more than expected, the committee feels strongly that the City needs to find away to do it all at once. The lakeshore restoration is an essential part of this park and the committee also feels strongly that this needs to be left in the bid sheet.

It was suggested that there be construction tape put across the front to let people know the park is not open, but is under construction. This was brought up as a liability issue as there are multiple holes around the property that could be a hazard. Ms. Stephan will mention it to Public Works.

The park improvements will be bid on May 22, 2007.

Summer Programs

Chairperson Seeley questioned whether the committee was going to try and coordinate any activities or summer programs through the YMCA as they have done in the past. Vice-Chairperson Amundsen had been in contact with the YMCA representative that coordinated the programs in 2006 and felt there was not enough interest in the community as the activities were cancelled the last season for lack of participation. The YMCA has their own building now and is active in a membership drive. The committee is not going to do anything about summer programs for 2007.

VII. UPDATES

Comprehensive Plan Review

The following was a summary regarding the Comprehensive Plan from the last Planning & Zoning Commission meeting:

The Commission reviewed the Comprehensive Plan, pages 52-59, identifying areas that needed redrafting or changes. The City Administrator handed out red-line pages of the earlier sections of the plan that were reviewed previously and will provide a red-line version of pages 52-59. Changes recommended by the Park & Recreation Committee are included. These will be provided to the planner at the appropriate time for use in updating the Comprehensive Plan. It was noted that the next Planning & Zoning meeting will be a joint meeting of Council and Planning & Zoning with the planner to begin the process of updating the plan.

Council Member Lee reported he had talked to Mr. Wayne LeBlanc, former Parks & Recreation Committee Member, to ask him if he would be willing to help the committee, on a short term basis, reviewing the section on Trails and Parks. Mr. LeBlanc said he would be interested.

Replacing Skate Park Equipment

Ms. Stephan informed the committee that the new SpohnCrete skate park equipment will be delivered and installed the week of May 7 – 11th.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Chairperson Seeley, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Amundsen, to adjourn the May 2, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting at 8:55 p.m. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Transcribed by Kim Stephan