



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 1, 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 Wednesday, August 1, 2007 meeting at City Hall, 1880 Main Street.

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

Approved

Council: Council Liaison Tom Lee
Council Member Michelle Lakso

Staff: Staff Liaison Kim Stephan

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call

Chairperson Seeley called the August 1, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

II. SET AGENDA

Chairperson Seeley requested adding to the agenda under appearances Mr. Trevor Weigel, Eagle Scout Project and Mr. Mark Spitzmueller, Bald Eagle Water Ski Club.

Motion was made by Vice-Chairperson Amundsen, seconded by Committee Member Selander to set the August 1, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Agenda with the above additions. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

III. APPEARANCES

Mr. Trevor Weigel made an appearance to discuss his Eagle Scout Project at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park which has now been completed. The cost of the project was \$318, a total of 23 volunteers worked on the project and Mr. Weigel said the biggest challenge was in the planning. The committee thanked him for his efforts and complimented him on how well the flower bed / monument sign turned out. Vice-Chairperson Amundsen requested a copy of Mr. Weigel's final report from the Eagle Scout Board for the committee's review.

Mr. Mark Spitzmueller, Bald Eagle Water Ski Club, made an appearance to discuss another possible location on Centerville Lake for the water ski club to base their practices and shows from. The location would be the strip of land located along the south side of CSAH14 currently owned by Anoka County, next to Mr. Paul Burke's rental properties. This property may eventually belong to the City following the CSAH14 widening project. Chairperson Seeley stated the committee would certainly like to see the water ski club stay in Centerville if at all possible and asked Mr. Spitzmueller if he thought there was enough room at this location? Mr. Spitzmueller said that other than parking, the viewing space is adequate. He walked the area and thought there was more room there than one would suspect and with spectators sitting on the grassy slopes he felt there could be room for up to 200 people. There is adequate water depth for their purposes. Mr. Spitzmueller also talked to Father Fitzgerald regarding parking at the church and felt that could be worked out. Chairperson Seeley reminded Mr. Spitzmueller that CSAH14 was being widened and would be in the middle of construction next summer. Mr. Spitzmueller stated he was aware of this and was looking forward to the following season after this section of road is completed and the trail has been installed. He had talked to Mr. Mike Kelly from Anoka County who informed him there will be more room on this south side of the road after the curve is softened and moved more towards the north side. The ski club was given their notice at their current Waterworks location that this would be the last season. They have been in Centerville 15 years and would like to stay on Centerville Lake if at all possible, though they are also working with the City of Forest Lake. Chairperson Seeley extended an invitation to work with the committee and the City to see what could be arranged after the road construction is completed.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

June 26, 2007 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Vice-Chairperson Amundsen, seconded by Committee Member Selander to approve the June 26, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes as is. Ayes – 3, Nays – 0, Abstain – 2 (Harris, Mosher) Motion carried.

V. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

The committee discussed the possibility of attaching a recognition sign to the back of the park sign thanking Mr. Trevor Weigel and his Eagle Scout Project for designing, building and planting the flowerbed / monument sign at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park and would like this item to be on the September agenda.

VI. UPDATES

Tracie McBride Memorial Park Renovations

Committee Member Harris and Council Member Lakso presented a comprehensive plan regarding park improvements for Tracie McBride Memorial Park. The proposal takes into consideration specific amenities which residents have asked for such as a tennis court, a climbing rock, a merry-go-round and a sand area. The committee discussed the amenities, their

placement and the budget for this renovation.

The tennis court is desired, but will be quite expensive and with a small budget it is cost prohibitive at this time. Chairperson Seeley suggested the committee might want to leave the space open for a future tennis court. The priority at this time is to upgrade and do the maintenance. While the idea of a looped trail has benefits, Chairperson Seeley's concern is having two entrances could encourage children to shoot out onto the road. Committee Member Harris said a merry-go-round was requested and while the committee likes the idea, they questioned whether it is a safety issue as they are not seen very often in parks anymore.

A resident abutting the park requested any play structure or climbing wall be done in neutral colors such as brown as to better blend in with the neighborhood. The committee had previously discussed having a sand play area, but have since found out sand is not allowed in playgrounds at all. The shredded recycled material used at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park for the fall zone is the preferred material to use at Tracie McBride Memorial Park, but because of the cost, the committee discussed other options and decided they would like to use pea rock. Recycled timbers will still be used as border.

Committee Member Harris discussed the idea of a picnic area behind the building covered by a pergola which would provide some shade. Council Member Lee reminded the committee that a pergola could involve engineering because of specs and city requirements and did they really want to involve engineering costs with a limited budget? The committee discussed eliminating the water fountain as the cost is approximately \$3,400, but Vice-Chairperson Amundsen suggested keeping everything in the proposed plan, it will just have to be done in phases. The most expensive pieces will be the proposed tennis court and the asphalt for the trails and resurfacing the basketball court. Council Member Lee suggested this could possibly be included with the 2009 street project. Council Member Lakso felt the current trail leading from the street to the play structure needed more immediate attention as it is becoming a safety hazard and questioned would this area not be considered maintenance. The ultimate goal of the trail is to get people to the pond and play areas. The committee split the various pieces to get costs for the next committee meeting.

Mr. Dallas Larson asked the committee to consider policy for trimming of trees and shrubs in the parks abutting residential properties. The concern was abutting property owners were dumping grass clippings/compost on park property making it difficult to mow and a resident complained that the trees/shrubs on the north border of Tracie McBride Memorial Park needed to be trimmed. Once trimmed by Public Works the resident felt they were trimmed too much.

The committee felt the City does not typically let neighbor by neighbor dictate how the Parks & Recreation Committee or Public Works take care of parks and stated the property lines should be kept clean and visible. The committee stated they would prefer Public Works continue to keep areas clean and trimmed and if residents wanted to they could plant shrubs and or trees on their property to block the view of the park.

Hidden Spring Park Improvements

The committee discussed the punch list of things that still needed to be completed at Hidden Spring Park as well as some items that were not on the list. A big concern is whether the rain garden actually drains the way it is supposed to. Issues are being addressed by the City Engineer and Staff.

National Night Out at Hidden Spring Park

At the June 6, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee meeting it was suggested by a representative of the Centennial Lakes Police Department to hold a National Night Out event at the park assisting communication between the Lino Lakes Police, Centennial Lakes Police and neighboring residents. Invitations have been sent out to Centerville and Lino Lakes residents on LaMotte Drive and LaMotte Circle, as well as Sorel, Goiffon and heritage Streets. Council member Lee will contact LLPD and CLPD regarding having an officer present. Ms. Stephan will ensure the committee has the supplies for lemonade.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Vice-Chairperson Amundsen, seconded by Committee Member Mosher, to adjourn the August 1, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting at 9:05 p.m. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Transcribed by Kim Stephan