



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 5, 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, September 5, 2007 meeting at City Hall, 1880 Main Street.

Present: Chairperson Suzanne Seeley
Committee Member Darrin Mosher
Committee Member Lori Harris

Absent: Vice-Chairperson Kevin Amundsen
Committee Member Kevin Selander

Council: Council Liaison Tom Lee
Council Member Michelle Lakso

Staff: Staff Liaison Kim Stephan

Approved

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call

Chairperson Seeley called the September 5, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

II. SET AGENDA

Motion was made by Chairperson Seeley, seconded by Committee Member Mosher to set the September 5, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Agenda as is. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

III. APPEARANCES

Ms. Pat Downing, Tree Replacement at Tracie McBride Memorial Park

Ms. Patricia Downing and Mr. David Downing, 1876 Prairie Drive, made an appearance to discuss possible tree replacement at Tracie McBride Memorial Park. There was storm damage to trees at the park which resulted in the loss of 3 or 4 trees and Mr. and Mrs. Downing were inquiring as to the possibility of replacing these trees. They had also heard there are improvements planned to this park and were wondering if a landscaping plan was to be included to potentially screen the abutting property owners from the park. Mr. Downing stated many of

the trees were planted years ago on the north, northwest and west sides of the park as a sound barrier by Centerville Elementary students as an Arbor Day Project. Public Works has since trimmed these trees and cleared much of the brush between the trees. With the storm damage and the trimming/clearing of the brush, the Downings' home is now quite visible from the park. They would also like a barrier between the park and abutting property owners to deter children from using the yards as a path to the park.

The committee members informed Mr. & Mrs. Downing that while sympathetic to their issue they had discussed this at the last committee meeting and decided the City cannot 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 a barrier they could plant shrubs and/or trees on their property to block the view of the park. Council Member Lee stated this same issue came up while Hidden Spring Park was being designed and the committee had the same answer.

Mrs. Downing stated that while she was on the Parks & Recreation Committee the City approved and planted lilacs along the property lines at Royal Meadows Park, so it has been done and while not asking for any special consideration for their property, they would like to see a landscaping plan incorporated into the park renovation plan to help buffer the abutting properties. Mr. Downing stated they would be willing to donate trees.

Chairperson Seeley stated that the committee did not want to reverse their original decision to not create borders with plantings or berms on park property lines as they cannot possibly do this for all the parks. She also said that the trees which were damaged by the storm may possibly be replaced since this was a different situation. Ms. Downing said the trees that were damaged by the storm have not been cleaned up as of yet. Ms. Stephan will refer this to Public Works. The committee will discuss possible replacement of trees and will look at some landscaping options when the park is renovated at the next scheduled committee meeting. Perhaps donations could be found to defray the cost of landscaping. The official response from the Parks & Recreation Committee is the City cannot pick and choose which residents and which borders to create buffers or barriers on and while not adverse to residents donating trees, the committee will not reverse its original decision to keep property lines clean and clear.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

August 1, 2007 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Chairperson Seeley, seconded by Committee Member Mosher to approve the August 1, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes as is. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

V. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Application for Appointment to Committee

Ms. Sara Fehrenbacher, 7330 Peltier Lake Drive, submitted an application for becoming a Parks

& Recreation Committee member, but was unable to attend this meeting. Chairperson Seeley spoke to Ms. Fehrenbacher who would like to attend the next committee meeting before her application is forwarded to City Council for consideration.

Park Rules

As there are two (2) committee members absent, Chairperson Seeley requested tabling this item until the October meeting.

Eagle Scout Project Recognition Sign at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park

The committee had discussed at the last meeting ordering a small plaque to recognize the Eagle Scout Project completed by Mr. Trevor Weigel at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park. The plaque would be attached to the back of the monument sign. The specifications the committee agreed to are as follows:

- 3/4" X 3" nameplate
- with satin SILVER finish,
- silver screws,
- and three lines that read as follows:

Landscaping by
~ TREVOR WEIGEL ~
Eagle Project - 2007

The font should be **Times New Roman** with mixed case on the 1st and 3rd lines, ALL CAPS on the 2nd line and centered as shown. The company to order from is as follows:

The web site is: wcp-nm.com - a Colorado-based company. Tel. # 1-877-373-1212.

Motion was made by Chairperson Seeley, seconded by Committee Member Mosher to recommend City Council direct staff to order the above referenced plaque not to exceed \$50. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Review Sidewalks / Trail Connections & 2009 Street Improvement Project

Included in the packet were 3 maps; a current sidewalk and trail map, a map that Mr. John Meyer, Finance Director, prepared for sidewalk connections in the downtown area and a proposed map for the 2009 Street Improvement Project. What the City Administrator has requested the committee look at is where should there be trail connections for the master plan, taking into consideration with the 2009 street project some roads are being reconstructed and it would be an opportune time to install sidewalks.

This item was also tabled until the October meeting.

Appraisals for Peltier Lake Property

There were appraisals of the available Peltier Preserve property (Lots 4 & 5) included in the packet for the committee's review. The owner of the property supplied the appraisals. Mr. John Meyer, Finance Director, said the cycle of grants that would apply to this type of property starts again in March 2008. While the committee finds this property attractive for a park or for trail connections, there are no funds available for a project like this. If the property is still available in the spring and there are grants available for this type of purchase the committee would be interested in pursuing it.

VI. UPDATES

Tracie McBride Memorial Park Renovations

Committee Member Harris and Council Member Lakso contacted Minnesota / Wisconsin Play Ground Equipment and Midwest Playscapes for estimates as to the renovation of Tracie McBride Memorial Park. Committee Member Harris's opinion was that everything would be removed and reworked except for the existing play structure. Midwest Playscapes did not break down the prices and the square footage was not the same for each of the companies so while some useful information was collected, the committee needs more specific information. Ms. Stephan will ask Mr. Tedd Peterson, Public Works, to meet Committee Member Harris and Council Member Lakso at the park to clarify the information that needs to be specifically requested from these companies in order to get estimates that are comparing like equipment and products.

Whether or not the trees will be replaced that were damaged in the recent storm will be tabled until there is a full committee present to discuss the issue.

Hidden Spring Park Improvements

The committee discussed what are considered ongoing, unresolved issues with Hidden Spring Park. It is believed the raingarden drains, but does not perform the function it is supposed to. Council Member Lee stated the contractor did what they were supposed to do according to specifications, but is concerned the specifications were not correct. Chairperson Seeley said the last big rainfall overflowed the raingarden and it did not follow the swale as it was supposed to and approximately 2/3 of the plantings are missing. The committee felt the drain tiles that were added were just a band aid and what we ended up with was a pond with drain tile. The concern is the possibility of having to dig the rain garden up and completely rework it undoing what has already been done, paying for this raingarden twice. Chairperson Seeley walked the park with the punch list provided by Mr. Mark Statz, City Engineer, and would like the other committee members to do the same, perhaps with a Council Member. Some of the shoreline issues have been addressed, but Chairperson Seeley stated there was approximately 20 feet on north side which has no bio logs installed and the shoreline is steadily eroding. The committee does not feel confident that either the rain garden or the shoreline restoration has been completed to their satisfaction.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Chairperson Seeley, seconded by Committee Member Mosher, to adjourn the September 5, 2007 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting at 8:15 p.m. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Transcribed by Kim Stephan