



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 3, 2005 - 6:00 p.m.**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Parks and Recreation Committee of the City of Centerville held the regularly scheduled meeting on August 3, 2005, at City Hall, 1880 Main Street.

Present: Committee Member Suzanne Seeley
Committee Member Kathy Peil
Committee Member Mr. Kevin Amundsen

Approved

Absent: Chairperson Tedd Peterson
Vice-Chairperson Wayne LeBlanc
Committee Member Linda Merkel

Council: Absent – City Council Work Session being held at the same time.

Staff: Kim Stephan

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call

Committee Member Peil called the August 3, 2005 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

II. SET AGENDA

Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Committee Member Seeley to set the August 3, 2005 Parks & Recreation Committee Agenda as is. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. APPEARANCES

Mr. John Meyer, Finance Director, made an appearance to discuss a Federal Transportation Enhancement Fund Application Draft with the committee. The committee discussed the advantages of the sidewalk connections being proposed by the grant and the concern that these sidewalks/trails tie in to the existing trail plan. Committee Member Peil questioned whether the outcome will line up with the trail extensions planned on the St. Genevieve property. Mr. Meyer assured the committee that the Parks & Recreation Committee's Trail Plan was reviewed when the grant application was drafted and the final outcome would eventually connect all the trails

and sidewalks as proposed. Mr. Meyer did state however, that the sidewalk connection on the east side of Centerville Road from Heritage Street to the sidewalk in front of Chauncey Barrett Gardens will probably not be possible due to the drainage ditch located on that property and the steep ditch involved. Committee Member Peil asked for the time frame on the grant application. Mr. Meyer stated it was due to be submitted by August 19, 2005 and would be going before City Council at the next scheduled City Council Meeting. The decision process is lengthy and it would probably be six (6) months before a decision was made by the Grant Committee. Mr. Meyer also stated that the funds would not be available until 2009. One of the issues in the City's favor is that this particular grant application connects all the trail systems, as well as the proposed County Road 14 trail and the regional trail.

Motion was made by Committee Member Seeley, seconded by Committee Member Peil to recommend to City Council accepting the Federal Transportation Enhancement Fund Application Draft as presented to the Parks & Recreation Committee as presented by Mr. John Meyer, Finance Director. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Consideration of July 6, 2005 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Committee Member Seeley to approve the July 6, 2005 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes as is. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Oath of Office – Ms. Linda Merkel & Mr. Kevin Amundsen

Committee Member Amundsen was sworn in as a Parks & Recreation Committee Member. Ms. Linda Merkel was not present.

2006 Budget

The Committee looked at previous budget information supplied by Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc and briefly discussed the modifications that will need to be modified before submitting the budget to City Council. Due to the absence of Chairperson Peterson and Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc, the majority of the items need to be tabled until the full committee is present. Chairperson Peterson discussed the budget prior to leaving on vacation with Committee Member Peil who shared his input with the committee. The concern is the Parks & Recreation Committee has limited funds available to them in upcoming years with the city nearing being built out and the end of Park Dedication Fees. With the possible purchase of the property at 1601 LaMotte Drive, the renovation of Tracie McBride Memorial Park when the old water tower comes down, the addition of trail connections on the St. Genevieve property and connecting the Pheasant Marsh, 3rd Addition Trail to Center Street and the desire to have a play structure at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park, the committee feels it needs to request funds from the General Fund. The committee has not received, nor requested funds from the General Funds in 3-4 years.

The proposed budget will be supplied to the City Council following the September 7, 2005 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting.

Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Committee Member Seeley to request \$25,000 from the General Fund to be transferred to Parks & Recreation Committee on an annual basis with this year's requested amount to be used for a play structure at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park. The Parks & Recreation Committee will submit a final budget proposal for the September 14, 2005 City Council Meeting.

Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park Play Structure

This item was discussed under the 2006 Budget. The committee would like to begin planning for a play structure to be installed in 2006.

Frozen Fete des Lacs – Parks & Recreation Possibly Taking Over Friday Night Event of Skating, Horse Drawn Hayride & Bonfire

With the Economic Development Committee in the process of reviewing what direction the committee will take and their role in the community, it is a possibility there will not be a Frozen Fete des Lacs in 2006. EDC has discussed in the past whether the Parks & Recreation Committee would be willing to take over the Friday night event of Frozen Fete des Lacs since that has been well attended in the past. Committee Member Peil stated, in her opinion, having the lake flooded was a waste of time, energy and funds when all the facilities are already available at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park.. Ms. Stephan reminded the committee that at the time of year Frozen Fete des Lacs has been held there has not still been ice available on the rinks at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park. Another reason Friday night's activities were moved to the Anoka County Park was to use the bonfire pit available at the regional park. In the past the bonfire at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park was held in the parking lot, but once the parking lot was paved the fire had to be moved to another location.

Committee Member Peil stated she would like to have the bonfire & hayride at one of the committee's annual Skate Nights at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park and suggested the soccer fields might work for a bonfire. The committee will discuss this further at the next scheduled meeting.

VII. UPDATES

Acorn Creek Park Satellite

There were no residents in attendance to verbalize concerns in this matter. This item will be removed from the agenda and the satellite will remain where it is currently placed.

Tracie McBride Memorial Park Renovation

The committee previously budgeted \$30,000 for renovations at this park. A clarification needs to be made as to when the old water tower will come down and a timeline for when renovations can start at the park.

Park Dedication Fees for Centerville Redi-Mix

This information was included in the packet as an FYI to the committee members. Mr. Dennis Shudy addressed City Council at the June 22, 2005 City Council Meeting concerning Commercial Park Dedication Fees for Centerville Redi-Mix. Mr. Shudy asked Council to consider reducing the park fee for his building as when he started this process there were no fees for commercial park dedication. Council Member Lee indicated that after Mr. Shudy purchased his property, but before he obtained the permit, the fees were created. Council Member Lakso indicated she is concerned with reducing park fees as the City needs the money to fund park maintenance. Council Member Lee also stated the park fees are important to the City. Mayor Capra commented that there was an exception for the town home development because the process was in the works. City Attorney Hoeft indicated that the fee structure is set and if the City is going to deviate from that then it needs to be a unique situation. Council Member Paar indicated this is a unique situation as the fees were raised and created for commercial development during Mr. Shudy's development. Mayor Capra agreed under these circumstances to reduce the park fee to \$2,100. Council Member Terway indicated the City has a schedule of fees and asked whether this would set a precedent for reducing fees upon request. City Attorney Hoeft indicated that unique circumstances could justify the fee reduction and then said that the fact that this project was underway when the park fees were created for commercial development could be found to be a unique circumstance.

Motion by Council Member Terway, seconded by Council Member Lee, to approve a reduction in park dedication fees and require Mr. Shudy to pay \$2,100 and the rest of the fees remain the same. The reduction is based on the fact that the plans for the property were submitted prior to the creation of the commercial park dedication fees. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

St. Paul Water Utility Property on Centerville Lake

The 2006 DNR Local Initiatives Grant Application for the Outdoor Recreation Grant Program for the purchase of 1601 LaMotte Drive was not approved for funding per notice the City received July 18, 2005. Mayor Capra is pursuing assistance for the purchase of this property with the Metropolitan Council and has a meeting arranged with Ms. Hilker, the City's local Metropolitan Council representative prior to the August 3, 2005 City Council Work Session.

Wheels Skate Park Equipment

Chairperson Peterson was unavailable for an update.

Additional Lights at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park

Per Chairperson Peterson, Rivard Electric has ordered the parts to install the additional lighting. The parts are unavailable for 4-6 weeks. The lights will be installed when the parts are available.

Church of St. Genevieve Trail

Added to the packet were the recommendations to City Council from the Parks & Recreation Committee regarding the trail easements on the St. Genevieve property and excerpts from the City Council Meeting Minutes with Council's responses. This was included as information for new members, but also as review. This will be added to the next committee agenda to be discussed as to when and how the committee would like to proceed with this item.

Pheasant Marsh, Phase Three – Trail

Added to the packet for review was information regarding the Parks & Recreation Committee's recommendation to City Council for the trail in Pheasant Marsh, Phase Three. This development was put on hold due to litigation in October 2003. The development is now moving forward, though a timeline is not currently available. In preparing a budget for 2006, the cost of the trail extension from the Pheasant Marsh, Phase Three Trail to Center Street along the west side of Outlot A, Center Oaks 2, will need to be added.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Committee Member Seeley to adjourn the August 3, 2005 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting at 7:22 p.m. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Transcribed by Kim Stephan