



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, August 4, 2004 - 6:30 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 4, 2004, at City Hall, 1880 Main Street.

**Present:** Vice-Chairperson Wayne LeBlanc  
Committee Member Julie Lindsay  
Committee Member Suzanne Seeley  
Committee Member Kathy Peil  
Committee Member Richard Anderson

**Absent:** Chairperson Peterson  
Committee Member Andre Ziegler

Approved

**Council:** Tom Lee  
**Staff:** Kim Stephan

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc called the August 4, 2004 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

**II SET AGENDA**

Committee Member LeBlanc requested Ms. Pat Downing be added under appearances to discuss the possibility of trees/bushes being planted in Tracie McBride Memorial Park to replace those removed by Great River Energy.

**Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Committee Member Seeley to set the August 4, 2004 Parks & Recreation Agenda with the above addition. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.**

**III. PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

**IV. APPEARANCES**

Ms. Pat Downing, 1876 Prairie Drive requested an appearance to discuss the possibility of trees/bushes being planted in Tracie McBride Memorial Park to replace those removed by Great River Energy. Many of the residents were upset by the removal of trees in the utility easement owned by Great River Utility and would like to see the buffer of trees replaced between the resident's homes and the park with a type of planting approved by the utility

company. Suggested were tall bushes such as lilacs, witch hazel or cranberry bushes. Ms. Downing stated that the Parks & Recreation Committee had planted trees in Tracie McBride Memorial Park years ago when she was a committee member and wondered if the committee could do something similar when the park was redone as the old water tower comes down. Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc informed Ms. Downing there is a subcommittee on Tracie McBride Memorial Park which she is welcome to work with. The subcommittee will look at this issue as the plans for the park progress.

## V. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc requested sentence 3, page 3 of 6, under Budget Planning be changed from 'If everything currently included on the Parks & Recreation Budget were to be approved, the budget would have quite a large deficit.' to 'If everything currently included on the Parks & Recreation Budget were to be approved, the budget would have a short term deficit, but the long term would be in the black.'

**Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Committee Member Anderson to approve the July 7, 2004 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes with the above correction. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.**

## VI. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

### 2005 Budget Planning

Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc stepped the committee through the budget information sheets which he revised according to the committee's input and supplied to the members for review. Council Member Lee said the projected assets for Pheasant March 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition will probably not be available for some time as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition is currently in litigation. The committee discussed the liabilities and whether the amounts of \$78,000 for the parking lot and \$30,000 for the skate park pad were the correct amounts at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park. The committee had budgeted \$30,000 for skate park improvements and questioned whether this was for the pad and equipment or just the pad. Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc will verify with Chairperson Peterson, who was not in attendance, the exact amounts that will come out of the Parks & Recreation budget for these items. It was questioned whether the skate park pad has been repaired. Ms. Stephan reported Bonestroo has directed Dressel to have the subcontractor fix the problem of the low spots holding water. The committee has been concerned the full amount will be paid to the contractor and the problem with the pad will not be resolved. The time frame was discussed as far as getting budget information to City Council. Council Member Lee reported council would start budget work sessions the second week of August and the committee needed to submit the proposed budget at this time.

**Motion was made by Committee Member Seeley, seconded by Committee Member Lindsay to recommend to City Council accepting the proposed Parks & Recreation budget for 2005 as presented. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **SUBCOMMITTEES**

### **Grants**

The committee discussed the letter received from the DNR denying the Clearwater Trail Grant Application for this year and the reasons it was denied; as well as what could be done differently for the next application submitted. The reason specified by the DNR was the amount of competition for limited funds. Committee Member Anderson questioned whether there was a contact at the DNR to give the committee more specific feedback. Committee Member Seeley will contact the DNR. Committee Member Anderson thought perhaps the Clearwater Trail project was too small and the committee should look at making a bigger change for the community by involving our neighboring communities such as the cities of Hugo and Lino Lakes. The biggest impediment Centerville has with this trail project is in trying to cross 35E. Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc will contact MNDOT for any updated information. The committee will continue to pursue the idea of a joint trail grant application with the cities of Hugo and Lino Lakes.

### **Trails**

The committee brought concerns about the trail in front of Apple Tree Square to City Council. The issue is being researched. There are no specific updates at this time.

### **Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park Warming House Renovation**

Committee Member Peil asked for volunteers to help paint the inside of the warming house at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park the weekend of August 14, 2004. The soffits and fascia have been replaced with the funding to come from the maintenance budget.

### **Tracie McBride Memorial Park**

No current updates.

### **Wheels Skate Park**

The skate park pad is still not ready to use due to a problem with the pad having low spots which are holding water. The City Engineer is working on resolving this issue. The committee was disappointed that the skate park equipment was not used at all this season.

### **St. Genevieve Renovation / Trail Project**

Mr. Wilharber, as a representative of St. Genevieve's Church, has contacted Chairperson Peterson as to what the Parks & Recreation Committee's intentions are as far as the proposed trail easements through St. Genevieve's property. Mr. Wilharber has stated the church feels there should be a concession on the amount of assessments the church has to pay for the street improvements in exchange for a trail easement.

Council Member Lee & the committee members had understood the concessions had already been made with the vacation of Goiffon Road and it was just a matter of coming to an agreement as to where to put the trail. The Parks & Recreation Committee has stated the first choice in a placement of a trail would be from County Road 14 along the lake on the far west side of the rectory, with the second choice being along the vacated Goiffon Road. The church representatives have suggested a trail along the east side of the church property with a yearly renewal agreement in the event the property is sold and the developer does not want a trail easement along the east end of the property. The committee feels the idea of a renewable trail agreement is unacceptable as well as the location of a trail on the east side of the property. Chairperson Peterson reminded Mr. Wilharber that the committee has no authority to discuss assessments or bargain amounts versus trail easements. The committee is advisory and will only make recommendations to council as to where the committee feels the best location for a trail would be. The city has a utility easement along the lake, west of the rectory, as well as an easement along LaMotte Drive where the trail can be installed. The committee is interested in obtaining future easements on the southeast and southwest corners of the church property abutting Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park to be negotiated at a later date when the property is developed.

#### **St. Paul Water Utility Property on Centerville Lake**

The committee discussed the purchase agreement that was proposed to the city by the St. Paul Water Utility concerning the purchase of the property on Centerville Lake. City Council and the City Attorney reviewed this purchase agreement at the last City Council Meeting and found multiple issues which needed to be reviewed and discussed. There is not an update at this time. The City Administrator, City Attorney and Mr. Bill Tschida, St. Paul Water Utility will meet to discuss this proposal.

#### **Park & Trail Design & Planning Services (SRF)**

Committee Member Lindsay will contact the representative from SRF to determine whether they would be willing to attend a Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting. Meeting with an SRF representative could also be useful in preparing for the next trail grant application.

#### **Requesting Charitable Gambling Funds**

Ms. Stephan informed the committee that requests were made to both the Spring Lake Park Lions and Dead Broke Saddle Club for \$1,500 each to acquire additional skate park equipment.

### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion was made by Committee Member Anderson, seconded by Committee Member Lindsay to adjourn the August 4, 2004 Parks & Recreation Committee meeting at 7:42 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.**