



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE January 6, 2003 Meeting Minutes

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Parks and Recreation Committee of the City of Centerville held the regularly scheduled meeting on January 6, 2003 at City Hall, 1880 Main Street.

Present: Chairperson Karla DeVine
Committee Member Kathy Peil
Committee Member Tedd Peterson (7:00 p.m.)
Committee Member Suzanne Seeley
Committee Member Wayne LeBlanc

Approved

Absent: Committee Member Brian Walter

Council: Council Member Linda Broussard Vickers

Staff: Kim Stephan

I. ROLL CALL

Chairperson DeVine called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

II. SET AGENDA

Committee Member LeBlanc requested the addition of Goiffon Road Trail Access under Committee Business #6. Chairperson DeVine requested the addition of Grants for 2003 under Committee Business #7.

Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Committee Member Seeley to set the January 6, 2003 agenda with the above additions. All in Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

None.

IV. APPEARANCES

1. Mr. Richard Carlson, Hunters Crossing 2nd Addition

Mr. Richard Carlson made an appearance to present a concept plan of Hunters Crossing 2nd Addition to the Parks & Recreation Committee. Mr. Carlson is proposing approximately 75 homes on a 43 acre

site south of Hunters Crossing 1st Addition. The homes will be in the \$400,000 range and Mr. Carlson expects the lots to be in demand because of the proximity to the parks and trail system. Mr. Carlson would like the Parks & Recreation Committee to consider taking the Park Dedication Fees with a trail and/or sidewalks opposed to additional land. Because of the close proximity of both the Anoka County Regional Park and Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park, he does not feel a park within this development would be necessary or practical. Mr. Carlson said he would look to the committee to recommend where additional trails would be placed.

The committee discussed the possibility of running the trail along the St. Paul Water Utility's easement, which had previously been considered. The St. Paul Water utility is open to this as long as the city assumed any liability to repair the trail should any part of the trail needed to be ripped up for water line repairs. This idea has the potential to run the trail all the way to Birch Street, parallel to Centerville Road, if efforts were coordinated with Lino Lakes. Mr. Carlson needs City Council approval to proceed with this project earlier than previously agreed to because of the MUSA restrictions that were previously in place and he stated he has no strict timeline. Mr. Carlson's proposal includes the possibility of grading in 2003, 4 or 5 homes built in 2004, approximately 10 homes in 2005 and 20 homes in 2006. Committee Member LeBlanc agreed there should be no need for park land with such close proximity to parks. Council Member Broussard Vickers stated it would be ideal to have sidewalks throughout the development with the trail along the back. Committee Member Peil questioned how recent the information is regards the St. Paul Water Utility easement and the possibility of using this for the trail. Committee Member LeBlanc reported it was approximately a year old and he would be willing to go to Lino Lakes and discuss the possibility of coordinating this with them. Mr. Carlson said that if this is what the committee was to recommend to City Council that he would coordinate the efforts with the St. Paul Water Utility and Lino Lakes.

There was a discussion on the pond system in both Hunters Crossing 1st and 2nd Additions. Mr. Carlson stated 100% of the water runoff in a development needed to be stored within that development and the ponds must be monitored. Silt fences need to stay in place around the ponds until the monitoring period is completed by Rice Creek Watershed. In developments in other cities, Mr. Carlson has had new requirements to install a split rail fence around each pond clearly defining the ponds to keep home owners from cutting too close to the ponds. To protect the wet lands it is included on the deed and in the covenant that homeowners cannot cut down the plant growth surrounding the ponds. This has been an issue in Hunters Crossing 1st Addition with some homeowners.

Mr. Carlson stated there were some complaints when Hunters Crossing 1st Addition was developed in regards to removing all the trees on the property prior to building. He said he would try to resolve this beforehand with the 2nd Addition. Mr. Carlson reported the existing trees on the 2nd Addition property are mostly aspen and cottonwood, with the exception of some pines and a large oak tree. Mr. Carlson said any tree of value and maturity he will make every effort to leave intact. Discussion ensued as to where to possibly put sidewalks and trails in the development. This item will be put on the February Parks & Recreation Committee Agenda and a recommendation will be made to council at that time as to whether the committee would like to take Park Dedication Fees at the rate in effect at the time, 10% of the value of the land or 10% of the developable land.

V. CONSIDERATION OF MEETING MINUTES

Committee Member LeBlanc requested changing 'tresses' to 'trusses' on page two (2). Committee

Member Peterson would like his statement on page six (6) reworded in regards to the Acorn Creek Trail sidewalk being cracked, as he did not suggest City Administrator Ms. Moore Sykes send a letter to the developer.

Motion was made by Committee Member LeBlanc, seconded by Committee Member Peil to approve the December 4, 2002 Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes with the above corrections. All in Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Spring Lake Park Lion's Grant of \$1,000 for Bleachers

The Parks & Recreation Committee, in conjunction with the City Administrator, applied for and received a \$1,000 grant from the Spring Lake Park Lions for bleachers at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park. The committee would like to order a set of bleachers to match the existing one. The cost may exceed the amount received from the Lions, with the balance to come from the Parks & Recreation Committee's Capital Fund. Committee Member Peterson will put the information together and present to Mr. Paul Palzer, Public Works Director to order the bleachers with council's approval. Chairperson DeVine will send a thank you note to the Spring Lake Park Lions

Motion was made by Chairperson DeVine, seconded by Committee Member Seeley to recommend to Council that the \$1,000 grant received from the Spring Lake Park Lions for bleachers be used to purchase one (1) set of bleachers for Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park to match existing bleachers, with the total amount not to exceed \$1,400. All in Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

2. Appointing of Committee Chairperson & Vice-Chairperson for 2003

Committee Member Peterson nominated Karla DeVine to continue as Chairperson for the Parks & Recreation Committee for 2003.

Motion was made by Chairperson DeVine, seconded by Committee Member Peterson to close nominations and vote on the Chairperson nomination. All in Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. DeVine will continue as the 2003 Parks & Recreation Committee Chairperson.

Chairperson DeVine nominated Committee Member Peterson as Vice-Chairperson for the Parks & Recreation Committee for 2003.

Motion was made by Chairperson DeVine, seconded by Committee Member Peil to close nominations and vote on the Vice-Chairperson nomination. All in Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Member Peterson will be the 2003 Parks & Recreation Committee Vice-Chairperson.

3. Royal Meadows Public Input Hearing

The Parks & Recreation Committee have requested the City Administrator direct staff to send letters to the residents in the area of Royal Meadows Park notifying them of a neighborhood input meeting to discuss possible changes to Royal Meadows Park. This will be held at the February 5, 2003 regularly scheduled Parks & Recreation Committee meeting at 6:30 p.m. The committee is considering recommending to City Council that the play structure currently at Royal Meadows Park be moved to Laurie LaMotte Park and the basketball area at Royal Meadows Park be enlarged. The committee would like to get community input on this idea. Ms. Stephan will pass this request on to the City Administrator and the City Council. Ms. Stephan will also put this information on the cable channel and the web site.

4. Buckbee Development

Committee Member LeBlanc supplied a copy of a petition regarding the Buckbee development, signed by the area residents specifying; 1) The area residents did not want twin homes in this development because they did not fit in with the character of the neighborhood, and 2) They do want a park. Chairperson DeVine informed Committee Member LeBlanc that she felt the entire Parks & Recreation Committee was undermined by the way Committee Member LeBlanc represented himself to the residents and to the City Council regarding the Buckbee Development. Committee Member LeBlanc said the issue of taking Park Dedication Fees versus 10% of the developable land for a park was such a close vote at the committee level that he felt it was worthwhile to pursue the issue. Committee Member LeBlanc also felt like the committee was not given the entire picture on the committee's finances and this information needed to be included in the monthly packets as he feels there is more money available than was represented.. Ms. Stephan informed the committee that they have had current financial information each month, and that some of the money Committee Member LeBlanc was including in his figures was not available to the committee, as it is from the maintenance fund. Committee Member LeBlanc was concerned that the council accepted the Park Dedication Fee for the Buckbee development at \$38,000 opposed to the original \$50,000 without this going back to the committee for discussion. Council member Broussard Vickers explained this was reduced because the developer, Mr. Gonyea, agreed to build 19 single family homes into this development instead of the originally planned twin homes at 25 units. Committee Member Peterson responded with while he appreciates the work and passion Committee Member LeBlanc puts into any project, he also feels Committee Member LeBlanc misrepresented the committee by implying if the Park Dedication Fees were taken instead of park land, the funds would go elsewhere in the city such as to roads or to sewer instead of being spent on another park or trails. Committee Member LeBlanc did not give residents the full story with his information and petition. Committee Member Peterson also remarked that Committee Member LeBlanc's financial information is incorrect. The \$26,000 in charitable gambling funds cannot be included in the committee's funds as council has already designated the monies be used for the warming house renovation. The \$50,000 for Park Maintenance cannot be included as it is from the Public Works budget, and the \$50,000 that the committee has designated as #1 priority to pave Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park's parking lot, Committee Member LeBlanc choose to show as low priority against the wishes of the committee. Council Member Broussard Vickers stated committee members needed to be careful to not cross the line between citizen and committee member when dealing with issues within the city.

5. Request from Centennial Little League

The Parks & Recreation Committee received a letter from the Centennial Lakes Little League requesting the use of Laurie LaMotte Park ball fields and the same service provided by Public Works Staff in regards to grooming the fields prior to games. This would be the same schedule as was approved in 2002. At this time, no other requests have been received. The Centennial Lakes Little League has worked with the city in the past donating all the backstops and purchased an attachment for the tractor, which is used in grooming the fields. Council Member Broussard Vickers would like to ensure the Centennial Lakes Little League is informed that this will be reviewed annually and they do not have exclusive rights to the fields.

Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Chairperson DeVine to recommend to council to accept the request from Centennial Little League to use the three baseball and softball fields and facilities located in Laurie LaMotte Park for the summer months of 2003 beginning April 1 through August 15, 2003, Monday through Friday from 4:00 p.m. until dark.

6. Goiffon Road Vacation / Trail Access

Committee Member LeBlanc talked to Father Fitzgerald, after getting approval from Council Member Capra, to discuss a trail access from County Road 14 to Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park when Goiffon Road is vacated. Father Fitzgerald said that St. Genevieve's Church has no immediate plans for renovating the current church building and are open to ideas concerning a trail. Committee Member LeBlanc reported 'Father Fitzgerald suggested there is a possibility that the trail could go next to the lake too. There was also discussion about trails near LaMotte Park. There is an easement essentially between LaMotte Park and the church property south of their school. He was open to a trail going from LaMotte Park to Meadow Lane. He also thought it possible for a trail to go along the west side of the church property south of their school. He just didn't want a trail going through the middle of the church property south of the school and that it might be an obstacle for the future development of the property south of the school.'

7. 2003 Grants

Chairperson DeVine asked that this item be added to the agenda as any grants to be applied for are typically due in March. In the past, grants have typically been done by the City Administrator. Committee Member Peil asked what grants should the committee potentially apply for and are there any that we have a better chance of receiving? Chairperson DeVine listed a variety of grants stating they are all different and have specific requirements. She suggested asking City Administrator Moore-Sykes what type of grants she has had the most experience in writing, what would be most favorable and what does she have time for. Chairperson DeVine will contact the City Administrator and supply her with a list of the available grants.

VII. UPDATES

1. Committee Vacancy

The Parks & Recreation Committee has an opening for one committee member with the election of Committee Member Lee to City Council. Ms. Stephan will post this on the web site, the cable channel

and the City Administrator will include this information in the Week in Review published in the Quad Press.

2. Ordinance#72 By-Laws

The Committee briefly discussed Ordinance #72. Council Member Broussard Vickers stated the ordinance specifically read that if a member misses three (3) meetings in a row, or more than four (4) per year, the council has the option to terminate the appointment. The ordinance also discusses the open meeting law, how to make motions and explains that the committees are advisory.

3. Centennial Hockey Association's Donation of \$600 for Hockey Nets

Committee Member Peil wrote a thank you note to the Centennial Lakes Hockey Association for the \$600.00 donation used towards the purchase of hockey nets for the Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park hockey rink.

Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Committee Member Peterson, to adjourn the January 6, 2003 Parks and Recreation Meeting at 9:18 p.m. All in Favor: Motion carried unanimously.