

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 3, 2003 - 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 December 3, 2003, at City Hall, 1880 Main Street.

Present: Chairperson Tedd Peterson

Vice-Chairperson Wayne LeBlanc Committee Member Kathy Peil Committee Member Julie Lindsay Committee Member Suzanne Seeley Committee Member Andre Ziegler Committee Member Richard Anderson

Absent: None

Council: Council Member Tom Lee

Staff: Kim Stephan

Approved

I. ROLL CALL

Chairperson Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

II. SET AGENDA

There were no additions, deletions or changes to the agenda.

Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc to set the December 3, 2003 Parks & Recreation Committee Agenda as is. All in favor: Motion carried unanimously.

III. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

None.

IV. APPEARANCES

None.

V. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Committee Member Peil, seconded by Committee Member Ziegler to approve the November 5, 2003 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes. All in Favor: Motion carried unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

None.

VII. UPDATES

Subcommittees

Grants

Chairperson Peterson received a mailing regarding a DNR Grant Information Meeting being held December 3, 2003. Chairperson Peterson was unable to attend. Committee Member Seeley attended as a representative of the Parks & Recreation Committee and the Subcommittees on Grants and Trails. Committee Member Seeley stated there are many groups vying for these funds, but was encouraged by the amount of information available. Representatives from both Anoka and Washington Counties were present and were enthusiastic about what Centerville Parks & Recreation Committee is trying to do. The representatives are willing to meet with the committee and provide letters of support. Committee Member Seeley obtained three (3) packets of grant application material, each with available funds behind them. There are local, federal and regional recreational trail grants available, however we are excluded from the regional program as it is a Met Council grant for areas already included in their plan. The local grant information is applicable to the larger piece of getting connected to the Hugo trail system. Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc stated Anoka County could designate Centerville trails as a regional trail. The City of Centerville could not submit the plan, but Anoka County could and the more plans Centerville is included in the better the chances of obtaining a grant. Committee Member Seeley said the contact for the Centerville area was very encouraging even though the deadline is in February and there was a limited amount of time available to put all the pieces together. The most difficult areas are when a watershed district is involved requiring permits as this can take a long period of time. The committee was encouraged to submit an application even if it was not complete and would be rejected as this would be a learning experience. Committee Member Ziegler suggested perhaps in the first plan the committee should skip over the watershed areas if time does not allow for this process.

Committee Member Seeley also stated it was advisable to try to piggy-back on the reconstruction of County Road 14 wherever possible and put pressure on MNDOT who may pick up a huge portion of the trail. The strongest suggestion made at the presentation was to find a name for the trail as soon as possible so there is name recognition, such as the Hardwood Trail in Hugo. The value is to make it appealing to draw people, like bike clubs who can write a support letters to be included with the grant application. Committee Member Anderson suggested a private sponsor such as Target.

Vice-Chairperson LeBlanc responded with he would prefer to keep the name nature related and the name of the trail needs to incorporate all the cities involved. The minimum request for a grant is \$5,000 and the maximum is \$100,000. These are matching grants with the monies being reimbursed after the work is completed. The representative for Hugo said their trail funds are in really good shape and have expansion plans. The committee discussed where exactly trails would be located and how to get from point A to point B effectively, but scenically. Council Member Lee mentioned the recent article in the Quad Community Press discussing an exchange making the bridge over 35E a 4-lane which will affect the possibility of a trail over the bridge. Committee Member Ziegler asked about grants for play equipment and Committee Member Seeley stated there are not currently funds available for this type of equipment. The federal grants are also split between trails allowing motorized vehicles and trails not allowing motorized vehicles. Committee Member Anderson suggested using the internet to find example of grants which were submitted in the past and approved. Committee Member Seelev felt the representative for the Centerville area was very approachable and would coach the members working on the application. The local and federal applications are almost identical. Subcommittees on Grants and Trails will continue to pursue this area.

Trails

The Trail Subcommittee is a separate committee, but at this time the information on trails was included with the Grant Update.

Tracie McBride Memorial Park

Committee Member Ziegler compiled a brief summary of the responses received from the survey distributed to the residents surrounding Tracie McBride Memorial Park. The idea of moving Wheels Skate Park or adding any type of skate board equipment to this park met with resistance from all residents who answered the survey. Discussion was had as to the various types of options people would like to see and a town meeting was suggested at a future time. Council Member Lee suggested the subcommittee have plans available by spring/summer 2004 and he would be willing to put it on AutoCAD to ensure it is accurate to scale and professional looking. Discussion was had as to various locations aerial photos could be viewed on the internet. Council Member Lee said he was impressed with the survey response as 25% of those polled sent in a response. This is higher than other surveys done in the past.

Wheels Skate Park

The Wheels Skate Park Subcommittee has not met yet at this time. A discussion was had as to the need to piggy-back the asphalt pad for the permanent site with the parking lot and possibly Heritage Street and LaMotte Drive. Mr. Peterson, City Engineer needs sizes to prepare an estimate. It will then be an option to put easily removed street course equipment inside the current concrete rink and/or hockey nets for roller hockey. Committee Member Peil stated that for relatively little funds the committee can purchase some really fun equipment that can be mounted permanently on the asphalt pad. This could not be done previously as it would wreck the integrity of the concrete. The subcommittee for Wheels Park requested a notice be posted for a meeting Monday, December 29th, 2003 at 8:00 a.m. at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park.

Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park Warming House Renovation

The Warming House Renovation Committee has not met at this time. Chairperson Peterson does not foresee anything being done until spring as the warming house will be in use once the ice rinks open. The Public Works Staff has sealed the cracks around the blocks and pipes with foam. The new roof and the cracks being sealed will help conserve energy for this winter. Chairperson Peterson has agreed to supervise the rink attendants again this year as Public Works Staff. Applications will be available this week at City Hall, with two positions open. An ad will run in the Quad Community Press, and the information will go on the city sign, cable and web site. There are three (3) Rink Attendants from last year who will be returning. Chairperson Peterson stated it has been policy to rehire those with previous experience.

SNO BIZ 2004

The committee discussed what type of activity they would like to participate in for the winter festival and decided to coordinate & staff the Friday night activities with a skate night at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park, bonfire, popcorn & hot chocolate. The Bunker Hills Stable will also be there with horse drawn carriage rides. The Economic Development Committee is responsible for the horse drawn carriage rides. All committee members were willing to participate. The Parks & Recreation Committee will be responsible for obtaining fire wood and a burning permit for the bonfire. The committee will also supply popcorn. EDC Member Burke will supply the hot chocolate. The committee also discussed holding Skate Nights at the park with popcorn & hot chocolate on Friday, January 9, 2004 and Friday, January 23, 2004 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Chairperson Peterson, seconded by Committee Member Anderson to adjourn the December 3, 2002 Parks & Recreation Meeting at 7:40 p.m. All in favor: Motion carried unanimously.

Transcribed by Kim Stephan