

Deephaven Park Committee Minutes

December 2, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lucy Hicks called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. declaring a quorum.

Present: Lucy Hicks, Darel Gustafson, Sarah Lien, Hans Larson, Peggy Beardsley, Scott Ferguson, John Flynn, Bryan Sykora and Jim Elvestrom

Absent: John Flynn

MINUTES

The Committee approved the October 7, 2009 minutes, with the correction of Peggy Beardsley's name, on a motion by Hans Larson and seconded by Sarah Lien. Motion carried 8-0.

Lucy Hicks noted that a cell phone company is considering locating another cell tower in Deephaven. The City has not made any final decisions on this matter. The Park Committee suggested that a portion of the rental proceeds be allocated to the parks capital improvements fund if a cell tower is located in a municipal park.

PUBLIC FORUM

No Comments

NEW BUSINESS

A. Thorpe Park

Hans Larson suggested that the play structure plan be designed based on the committees' desired concept and structure needs, with the assumption that no grant money will be received. If necessary be prepared to raise the needed funds for the plan.

Jim Elvestrom suggested that residents could consider park donations as part of their legacy planning.

Hans Larson suggested that if monetary donations are made to the Thorpe Park improvements, those donors be recognized similar to the process for Children's Park.

Darel Gustafson stated that a final plan needs to be ready prior to approaching residents for monetary support.

Bryan Sykora stated that removing custom pieces could reduce overall structure costs by \$30,000.

Sarah Lien suggested the concept incorporate "local flair" like buoys, sails and burgees to get a custom look with out the price.

Bryan Sykora and Scott Ferguson will work on an optional plan, removing all custom pieces for stock pieces.

Sarah Lien suggested creating two concept plans. One plan with an approximate cost of \$45,000 and a second, larger scale plan, for approximately \$80,000.

Darel Gustafson asked if the design will result in a plan that residents want.

Sarah Lien suggested that the committee gather basic data on the number and age ranges of children in Deephaven. Sarah will contact the School District to get data.

Bryan Sykora distributed several pictures of stock play structure equipment to illustrate options available.

Scott Ferguson suggested creating a plan detailing specific pieces and features relative to age groups and listing which existing pieces would be removed and whether those pieces could be relocated to another park.

Darel Gustafson suggested the committee identify ground rules and create a subcommittee to work on the plan.

The committee agreed the improvements plan include:

- Total design
- 2-5 year structure
- 5-12 year structure
- swings
- Identify which pieces will remain and which will be removed.
- Delineate ground surface options and costs
- Create local flair “lake theme”
- Estimate installation and removal costs. (20-25% of equipment costs)
- Make a recommendation in January on the plan and costs

Hans Larson suggested that Council consider using a portion of the park improvement funds earmarked for Shuck Park in 2010 to be used towards installation costs of any equipment that may be moved from Thorpe to Shuck.

B. Deephaven Days

The Committee agreed to contact potential businesses for sponsorship of the 2010 Deephaven Days and triathlon.

Lucy Hicks agreed to draft a letter to send to local businesses seeking sponsorship for the 2010 Deephaven Days.

The Committee agreed to seek sponsorship from outside businesses as well as those in Deephaven. The sponsors could donate prizes or make monetary contributions.

Darel Gustafson suggested contacting a health care organization in the area for potential sponsorship.

Bryan Sykora suggested that more attention be given to the picnic by distributing information to residents several times in advance and possibly adding some activities for children in the park.

C. Other Items

Village Hall ice rink - Lucy Hicks stated that she will contact John Flynn about the ice rink boards.

Term limits - Lucy Hicks reported that several terms are expiring in 2010 and suggested that any persons interested in participating in the committee be invited to the January meeting.

Timing Chips - The committee suggested that staff look into options for several companies that could provide timing chips for the 2010 triathlon.

Geese in Thorpe Park - Jim Elvestrom reported that there is a product on the market used by the DNR as a goose deterrent. Growing tall grass around Thorpe Pond may be beneficial in addition to an application of "bird-be-gone". Geese lay eggs in April and May, prior to native grasses growing tall enough to deter access to the pond. A chemical goose deterrent could be sprayed around the pond in the spring to help deter the geese until the grasses grow to a height to be effective. Jim will gather data on the chemical application used by the DNR and report back to the committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Hans Larson and seconded by Bryan Sykora. Motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park Committee will be held on Wednesday, January 6 at the City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Souers