PARK COMMITTEE MEETING
October 6, 2010
Minutes

Call Meeting to Order
Chairman Darel Gustafson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present
Darel Gustafson, Scott Ferguson, Peggy Beardsley, John Flynn, Cindy Webster, Jim Elvestrom, Administrator Dana Young

Members Absent
None

August 4, 2010 Minutes
The Committee approved the August 4, 2010 minutes on a motion by Jim Elvestrom, seconded by John Flynn. Motion carried 6-0.

Matters from the Floor
There were no Matters from the Floor this evening.

Park Committee Candidates
Dana Young stated that he had sent both Rebecca Sandquist (19980 Cottagewood Road) and Darren Aschoff (18399 Minnetonka Blvd) an invitation to tonight's meeting if they had an interest in serving on the Park Committee. He stated that Rebecca Sandquist dropped by City Hall earlier today to express her interest in serving on the Committee but she was unable to attend this evening due to a family matter. He stated that he never heard back from Darren Aschoff.

Cindy Webster stated that she could ask a new resident by the name of Casey Campbell if he would be interested in serving on the Deephaven Park Committee.

Dana Young stated that there simply aren't many residents who have expressed an interest in joining the Park Committee and suggested that the Committee might want to consider recommending that the size of the Committee be reduced from 9 to 7 members to make it easier to obtain a quorum. It was further noted that John Flynn's term of office will expire in February 2011 and Darel Gustafson's position on the Committee could also expire if he is elected to the City Council this fall.

The Committee recommended meeting with Rebecca Sandquist and Casey Campbell in December and deciding at that time whether to request a reduction in Park Committee membership.

10-Year Park Capital Equipment Plan
Dana Young presented a brief review of the 10-Year Park Capital Equipment Plan for Committee review.

Scott Ferguson suggested that funding could be based on the overall annual park allocation rather than specifically assigning a fixed dollar amount to each particular item that is scheduled to be replaced. He stated that this would make the Capital Equipment Plan much more flexible.

Dana Young stated that, although specific equipment is listed each year to be replaced, the equipment is reviewed the year that it is scheduled to be replaced and evaluated as to whether it needs to be replaced or if its useful life could be extended. He stated that, in actual practice, the Capital Improvement Plan is much more flexible regarding the replacement of equipment than it appears and the Council could decide to reallocate funds towards another project or piece of equipment at any time.

Peggy Beardsley noted that the playground equipment at Shuck Park is in very poor condition and was surprised that nothing had been included in the Capital Improvement Plan to upgrade the playground.

Dana Young stated that the Council has voiced some concern about how much funding to allocate to Shuck Park in light of the fact that there is newer and better playground equipment only one block away at Children's Park and newly renovated tennis courts only two blocks away at Village Hall. He stated that the Council is uncertain about how much funding to commit to Shuck Park in light of the fact that there are other park amenities in such close proximity to Shuck. He added that a discussion on the future direction of Shuck Park would make a very good discussion item for the Park Committee.

Peggy Beardsley also commented on the lack of maintenance on the trails within Haralson Park. She stated that grass is growing up through the rock.

Dana Young stated that this might be an issue for the Committee to review during their inspection of the parks next spring.

2011 Park Improvement Fund Projects

Brief discussion was held regarding potential 2011 Park Improvement Fund projects. The Committee could not think of any specific projects for 2011 at this time.

Other

Dana Young stated that former Park Committee member Bryan Sykora has invited the Committee members to attend the NRPA Conference at the Convention Center from October 26-28. Scott Ferguson stated that he might be interested in attending.

Dana Young reported that the installation of the new playground at Thorpe Park is underway and would be completed by the end of the week.

Peggy Beardsley stated that she had an interest in converting Burton Park into a Dog Park. Dana Young stated that he would place this item on the Park Committee agenda for discussion at their next meeting.

Jim Elvestrom expressed interest in establishing an Endowment Fund for Deephaven Parks. He stated that he would like to work with Dana Young on the process that would be involved in establishing such a fund.

Jim Elvestrom also noted that the geese have been back at Thorpe Park since mid-August, once again making a mess on the walking path. Dana Young stated that there really hasn't been an effective remedy to this problem and that there should be additional discussion on this issue later next spring.

Dana Young noted that the next regularly scheduled Park Committee meeting on November 3rd has been cancelled due to a conflict with a rescheduled Council meeting. He stated that the next meeting of the Park Committee would be held on December 1, 2010.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by John Flynn, seconded by Cindy Webster. Motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park Committee will be held on Wednesday, December 1, 2010.