

PARK COMMITTEE MEETING
January 5, 2011
Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present

Scott Ferguson, Peggy Beardsley, John Flynn, Jim Elvestrom, Rebecca Sundquist, Administrator Dana Young

Members Absent

Cindy Webster

October 6, 2010 Minutes

The Committee approved the October 6, 2010 minutes on a motion by Peggy Beardsley, seconded by John Flynn. Motion carried 5-0.

Matters from the Floor

There were no Matters from the Floor this evening.

Rebecca Sundquist

The Committee officially welcomed Rebecca Sundquist to the Park Committee.

Committee Chair & Vice Chair

The Committee recommended the appointment of John Flynn as Park Committee Chair for 2011 on a motion by Jim Elvestrom, seconded by Scott Ferguson. Motion carried 5-0.

The Committee recommended the appointment of Scott Ferguson as Park Committee Vice Chair for 2011 on a motion by Peggy Beardsley, seconded by Rebecca Sundquist. Motion carried 5-0.

Other Potential Park Committee Candidates

Dana Young stated that with Darel Gustafson's election to the City Council and Rebecca Sundquist's appointment to the Park Committee by the City Council last Monday, the Committee currently needs one more member to reach its full complement of seven members. Dana Young stated that the City Council has already acted to amend the membership provisions of the Park Committee to reduce the membership of the committee from 9 to 7 members

Dana Young added that a decision will need to be made on the reappointment of John Flynn. He stated that John Flynn has served since 2004 and his term of office officially expires next month unless the Committee would like to consider extending his term an additional year.

John Flynn indicated that he would be agreeable to serving on the Park Committee for an additional year.

Motion by Peggy Beardsley to reappoint John Flynn to the Park Committee for an additional year. Seconded by Jim Elvestrom. Motion carried 5-0.

Dana Young stated that with the reappointment of John Flynn, the Committee would need to fill one more vacant position.

Peggy Beardsley stated that she had emailed Dana Young earlier about the possibility of asking Lucy Hicks or John Dupont if they would be interested in returning to the Park Committee.

Dana Young stated that he has heard from three other potential candidates who have expressed a potential interest in serving on the Park Committee, including Carl Evenson, David Paulson and Cindy Webster's candidate, Casey Campbell. He noted that attempts were made to contact David Paulson last year, but he never returned any of the messages.

Scott Ferguson stated that he would be willing to ask Lucy Hicks if she would be interested. Peggy Beardsley stated that she would be willing to ask John Dupont if Lucy Hicks declined the offer.

Future Shuck Park Improvements

Dana Young stated that the following improvements were scheduled at Shuck Park over the next 10 years:

- 2013 – Tennis court Armor Crack sealing (\$9,000)
- 2015 – Sign (\$1,700), swings (\$3,000), benches (\$1,700), spring toys (\$1,500), basketball court sealing (\$1,000), picnic table (\$750), remove existing playground equipment
- 2019 – Tennis court reconstruction (\$50,000)

Discussion was held regarding future improvements at Shuck Park.

Peggy Beardsley stated that she felt the most important improvement at Shuck Park would simply be to keep it well maintained. She stated that she felt the playground equipment, which was in poor condition, should be removed along with the spring toys. She stated that the only playground equipment she would add would be swings.

John Flynn suggested that the Committee could invite the public to a future Park Committee meeting to discuss possible plans for future improvements at Shuck Park. After discussing the possibility of holding the meeting in either April or May, the Committee decided to hold the public meeting at the regularly scheduled Park Committee held in May to give the Committee the time necessary to develop talking points.

Scott Ferguson offered to develop a list of potential alternative activities at Shuck Park for the public meeting.

2011 Goals & Objectives

The Committee discussed the following list of Goals & Objectives for the Park Committee in 2011:

- Improve overall park maintenance.
- Develop strategies for reducing park maintenance.
- Reduce goose droppings at Thorpe Park

Further discussion was held about each Committee member adopting a city park in order to advise the City if there are any outstanding maintenance issues. The members volunteered to monitor the following parks and beaches:

Peggy Beardsley	-	Shuck Park, Cottagewood Children's Park	Scott
Ferguson and Jim Elvestrom	-	Thorpe Park	
John Flynn	-	Robinson's Bay Beach	
Rebecca Sundquist	-	Haralson Park, Village Hall Park	

John Flynn stated that he had noted a discussion at the October 2010 Park Committee meeting regarding the possibility of developing a Dog Park in Deephaven. He stated that he contacted John Keprios, with the Edina Park & Recreation Department, about the Dog Park they developed three years ago at Van Valkenburg Park.

He stated that Edina had surveyed their residents and determined that 28% of their residents supported a Dog Park. After an extensive review of their existing parks, Van Valkenburg Park was selected due to the fact that it had adequate off-street parking, was in a non-residential area, and had good visibility.

John Flynn stated that that Edina supported the Dog Park through the issuance of a high visibility collar, which cost \$25 for residents and \$50 for non-residents. He stated that these collars generated around \$50,000 per year.

John Flynn stated that Burton Park lacked many of the features that are available at Van Valkenburg Park, such as having a flat topography with great sightlines. He stated that the only significant available parking would be at Deephaven Elementary School.

Peggy Beardsley stated that our Police act as Animal Control Officers in Deephaven and are generally very agreeable to allowing dogs to be off their leash as long as they are under the control of their owner. She stated that this might change if there were a Dog Park in Deephaven.

John Flynn added that there were also have to be a strong revenue stream in order to support the cost of operating a Dog Park.

Scott Ferguson stated that he could understand the need for a Dog Park in Edina due to the fact most of their house are only about 6 feet from the property line. He stated that Deephaven residents own ½ acre parcels, which allow much more freedom for their dogs.

Peggy Beardsley stated that perhaps it would be best if the Committee didn't push to have a Dog Park constructed in Deephaven.

Other

Discussion was held about the possibility of replacing Deephaven Days with some other type of community event. Scott Ferguson and Jim Elvestrom suggested that the Park Committee could sponsor a Movie Night along with a Community Grill Night.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Scott Ferguson, seconded by Peggy Beardsley. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2011.