

**PARK COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**April 12, 2007**  
**Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Woody Woodburn called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Present: Bryan Sykora, John Dupont, Jennifer Young, John Flynn, Darel Gustafson, Peggy Beardsley, Woody Woodburn and Council Liaison John Wheaton.

Absent: Lucy Hicks and Hans Larson

Guests: Scout Pak 427, Local Deephaven Scout Pak

**SCOUT PAK 427 FLAG PRESENTATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Scout leader Mike McCormick introduced the Scout Pak 427. There are 100 Scouts in Pak 427. All of the Scouts attend the Deephaven or St. Therese Elementary Schools. The Scouts, lead by Mason McCormick, conducted a flag presentation and pledge of allegiance.

**WELCOME**

The committee welcomed new member Peggy Beardsley to Park Committee.

**MINUTES – March 7, 2007**

The Committee approved the March 7, 2007 minutes as submitted on a motion by Jennifer Young and seconded by Bryon Sykora. Motion carried 7-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A) Scout Pak Service Project**

Mike McCormick stated that the Scout Pak would like to acquire service hours and would be interested in cleaning up a city park.

Woody Woodburn noted that Children's Park is the site for Arbor Day and it would be helpful if the Scouts would clean up any debris from Children's Park.

Mike McCormick stated that the Saturday before Arbor Day, (April 28) the Scouts will pick up debris from Thorpe Park and will clean up Children's Park on Arbor Day (April 29).

The Park Committee thanked the Scouts for the presentation and their attendance.

John Wheaton reported that the Council directed the public works department to review the breakwater structure to determine if it is working. If the city agrees to keep the structure, the city should decide whether to cap the structure.

John Wheaton had to leave the meeting 7:12PM.

The Park Committee presented John Flynn with a cap and book on the history of the Zamboni to thank him for his work on the ice rinks and zamboni this season.

### **B) Arbor Day Tree**

Jennifer Young reported that she spoke with several nurseries and the public works director Jerry Hudlow regarding tree species for Arbor Day. Mr. Hudlow suggested that a Ginkgo tree would be a good option. A Maple tree cannot be put back in the location due to soil disease (wilt) from the maple that was removed. Mr. Hudlow also cautioned against an Ash tree due to an insect that can infect the trees.

Jennifer Young stated that Children's Park has several Honeysuckle, Linden and Maple trees and to put a lone species tree in the park may look out of place and unsymmetrical. Based on the tree types and history of tree diseases, Jennifer recommended a Linden.

The Park Committee asked to have public works turn the water fountain on for the Arbor Day celebration.

### **C) Capital Improvements & Miscellaneous Issues**

#### **Childrens Park Fountain**

Jennifer Young reported that the public works department fills the fountain at Children's Park every morning. The Public Works Director Jerry Hudlow recommended that the Park Committee consider purchasing an auto-fill switch that could be connected to the hose and would fill the fountain each day. The cost would be less than \$200.

**John Flynn moved to recommend to Council to approve the purchase of an auto-fill device to be used for the fountain at Children's Park. Woody Woodburn seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.**

#### **Ground Cover at Children's Park**

Jennifer Young reported that the public works is recommending the ground cover under the sumac be left alone this year and not be vacuumed out.

Peggy Beardsley agreed the ground cover be left alone for one season because it is very labor intensive. Staff can track any calls of concern or disapproval from residence regarding this matter.

Jennifer Young stated that every year since 1979 the City has borrowed a U-blade from Mr. Svoboda in Deephaven to dig the hole for the Arbor Day tree. Staff will speak with City Administrator Young regarding the use of the U-blade.

#### **City Hall Park Drinking Fountain**

Jennifer Young reported that the City Hall drinking fountain is not in operation. The City will need to contact a plumber to have the fountain repaired and connected.

John Flynn suggested that the public works get a bid or quote to get the drinking fountain repaired and operational and report back to the committee on the costs.

Bryon Sykora did not agree that expenses related to the drinking fountain should come out of the park budget.

Woody Woodburn agreed that the City obtain a bid for the drinking fountain repairs and confirm with the City Administrator which budget the expense will come out of.

**Paddle Tennis Area** –Woody Woodburn stated that there is not a plan in place for improvements at this time. Once a plan has been created the committee can address specific landscape issues.

### **May Park Committee Meeting**

Woody Woodburn suggested that the Park Committee conduct a park tour of Thorpe Park as part of the regular May meeting. The committee will meet at the warming house at 6:30PM to convene the meeting and review park needs.

### **Walden Beach**

Woody Woodburn reported there was a complaint regarding some bushes at Walden Beach that had thorns. The committee suggested that the public works staff look at the area and determine if the bushes are on city property and report back to the committee.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Community Project:**

Resident Sue Gartner has requested to have the Deephaven Elementary fifth grade class clean up a park as part of a community project.

The Park Committee suggested the fifth grade clean up the open area of Burton Park and along the trail from Carson Bay Bridge to the walking path bridge.

### **Badminton Area at St. Louis Bay Commons**

Beth Burgan, Deephaven resident has requested that the city consider installing pipes (sleeves) into the ground in the commons area at St. Louis Bay to be used in conjunction with a badminton set.

Woody Woodburn requested that Ms. Burgan be invited to the next park meeting in May and the committee can meet her at the site to discuss this idea further.

Darel Gustafson asked how the system could be made usable to other residents and to ask Ms. Burgan if she has any ideas.

### **Employee Park Area**

John Dupont reported that Mayor Paul Skrede would like to consider creating a park area near the city hall to recognize long-term employees. This area could contain low-maintenance vegetation, benches, possibly some trees and an area for plaques to

recognize employees. Mayor Skrede would like to form a committee to discuss this idea. Jennifer Young and John Dupont agreed to meet with the police department employees and the Mayor regarding a garden area near city hall.

### **Deephaven Days**

Darel Gustafson offered to spearhead the Deephaven Days event. It was suggested that volunteers sweep the route to check the course and declare the race is done.

Peggy Beardsley agreed to contact Charty Oliver and Jean Midthun about helping to coordinate volunteers for the Deephaven Days.

### **Tree Trimming along LRT Trail**

Woody Woodburn stated that the Xcel Energy's tree service crews have cut the trees along the LRT trail and feels it was poorly done.

**Woody Woodburn moved to recommend that Deephaven Park Committee send a letter of complaint to Xcel Energy regarding the tree trimming along the LRT trail and express concern that their tree trimming appears to be clear cutting rather than selective cutting or trimming.**

**Woody Woodburn amended the motion to recommend that power lines along the trail be buried. Jennifer seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.**

Darel Gustafson questioned why Xcel Energy is not looking at a long-term burial program for power lines.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by John Dupont and seconded by Bryon Sykora. Motion carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2007 at 6:30PM in Thorpe Park.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shelley Souers