

PARK COMMITTEE MEETING
August 1, 2007
Minutes

Present: Jennifer Young, Darel Gustafson, Peggy Beardsley, Lucy Hicks, Bryan Sykora, John Dupont, Hans Larson, John Flynn and Council Liaison John Wheaton.

Absent: Woody Woodburn

Guests: Mayor Paul Skrede and Mitch Jakes

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairperson Jennifer Young called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. declaring a quorum.

MINUTES – July 10, 2007

The Committee approved the July 10, 2007 minutes as submitted on a motion by Lucy Hicks and seconded by Darel Gustafson. Motion carried 7-0.

Hans Larson arrived.

PADDLE TENNIS PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Lucy Hicks introduced landscape designer Mitch Jakes, owner of Land Design Ltd. Lucy Hicks stated that Mr. Jakes creates and constructs landscape designs.

Mr. Jakes reported that he reviewed the paddle tennis park site and met with Lucy Hicks regarding the concept for the site. He created a draft site plan based on the discussion and distributed copies to the Committee for review. The draft plan outlined approximately 12 car parking spaces only with no through access for vehicles. A berm could be created to screen the public works shed and create a visual break. The road access to the public works building would be scaled down. All plantings would be low maintenance with a variety of tree species, both deciduous and coniferous, were used in the concept plan.

Mr. Jakes elaborated on the types of trees and plantings in the draft plan, noting that Junipers would be a nice planting along the paddle tennis court. Burning bushes planted along Minnetonka Boulevard would provide color and would be a distance off the road so that road salt will not affect the plantings. He suggested a variety of trees be planted, both evergreen and hardwoods in the park area.

Lucy Hicks asked if Mr. Jakes could address the road materials suggested in the plan.

Mr. Jakes stated that a mix of gravel and granite chips work well for parking space and walking paths because the gravel packs well and creates less dust. A dry stream bed would carry water run-off and dilute it before it filters into the wetland area.

Mr. Jakes elaborated on the draft plan noting a ridge behind the paddle tennis court would be planted with hardwood trees that would blend into the mature trees behind the court. He

reported that the site soils are not in good condition and a large volume of soil would need to be added to the site. There is grass proposed along the boulevard. Several seating areas could be created using free-form pads for benches.

In answer to Jennifer Young's questions regarding the Maple trees on the plan, Mr. Jakes stated that the Amour Maple typically reach only 15 feet. In keeping with a low maintenance approach, all the suggested perennials could be mowed down at the end of the year for easier maintenance.

Mayor Paul Skrede suggested that the 12-foot egress road accessing the public works shed may be too narrow. The public works use the space in front of the shed and will need room to turn large trucks and unload materials.

Mr. Jakes agreed and stated that draft could be easily altered to accommodate the public works needs.

The Park Committee suggested that the public works staff review any proposed plan and give their suggestions and determine the road width and turn-around capability needed.

Mr. Jakes stated that he has proposed space adjacent to the proposed parking for snow storage.

Bryon Sykora asked about the depth of the parking spaces.

Mr. Jakes responded that each space was 20 feet x 10 feet. No car-trailer parking is depicted.

Mr. Jakes stated that he has been in business for 23 years and also does vegetation maintenance for several commercial businesses. He does not work with electrical. He also suggested that the City contact a separate tree trimming company to do the routine tree work in the park area.

The Park Committee thanked Mr. Jakes for presenting the draft plan and his time.

Peggy Beardsley presented a brief overview on behalf of Close Landscape Architects. She stated that she met with Close and reviewed the site. Close is a consulting landscape company that would create a detailed plan and then assist the City in finding contractors for all installation and construction based on their landscape design. A fee estimate for a draft plan would be \$7000. Their primary work is commercial projects.

Darel Gustafson stated that their service could be open-ended because there is a scope change fee spelled out in the contract.

Jennifer Young reported that the landscape at the Wayzata Library was designed by Close Landscape.

Council Liaison John Wheaton asked if reviewing the City's other designs would benefit the landscape designers.

Peggy Beardsley noted that the previous two plans drafted for the park area were not given to either Mr. Jakes or Close Landscape Architects because the Committee wanted the landscapers to use their own creativity.

Mayor Skrede stated that the City needs to decide if there will be permit parking (fee-based) or free parking and the number of parking spaces that the Park Committee agrees are acceptable. Councilmember Steve Adams will be confirming the number of amenity points for the parking spaces the City has, which impact the City's allowable water storage units. Mayor Skrede noted that the public works needs must be considered in the landscape plan. Park and City boundaries also need to be determined. There is a park and ride stop adjacent to the park and the City needs to learn if it is obligated to provide parking.

Mayor Skrede noted that Council meets on August 6th and it will be helpful to understand the Committee's suggestion regarding the desired parking space.

The Park Committee asked Council Liaison John Wheaton to address this parking issue with the City Council.

Peggy Beardsley agreed there are alternative parking options available for the regattas, which is one reason there was agreement to limit the parking spaces at the paddle park area.

Hans Larson noted that he has observed on many occasions that the majority of cars and trailers parked in the area do not have Deephaven stickers.

Peggy Beardsley stated that some residents do use the parking area for the paddle tennis court and walking along the trail.

A motion by Lucy Hicks to recommended to the City Council to create 10-15 parking spaces in the paddle park area that are permit parking only with no trailer parking. Peggy Beardsley seconded the motion.

Hans Larson suggested that an explanation for limiting the parking spaces should be given to Council.

Jennifer Young noted that the majority of cars and trailers parking in the paddle tennis area are not Deephaven residents. The available trailer parking along the boulevard is not full all the time. Also a large portion of the paddle tennis area has been designated as park land not a parking lot.

Darel Gustafson stated that we cannot assume the persons parking using the space are not enjoying the resource. He does not want to convey a closed view of sharing City resources and amenities with the non-resident public.

Bryan Sykora agreed that many people who use the paddle tennis court are non-residents and asked where those persons would park? He suggested leaving the new parking spaces open as

non-permit parking and see what issues arise before the City changes it to permit (fee-based) parking.

Lucy Hicks moved to amend the original motion and to recommend to Council to put forth 10-15 car parking spaces only that do not require a permit; with no trailer parking permitted. Motion seconded by Peggy Beardsley. Amended motion carried 8-0.

Hans Larson stated that the property was donated by Amesbury as a park and the best use for the property is a park not parking lot.

Hans Larson also noted that one reason for not allowing trailer parking in the paddle park area is because Deephaven School is available as a site. He stated that the City has no jurisdiction over the school lot; however, is aware that the lot is widely used for car-trailer parking.

John Flynn asked if Close Landscape Architects could provide comparable plans that they have done for past clients. He also suggested that before selecting either of the architects that the City contact their references.

Peggy Beardsley will contact Close Landscape Architects to get some information on proposals they have completed and check into the process for the landscape of the Wayzata Library.

The Park Committee agreed to continue moving forward with the park restoration and will continue discussion in September.

Council Liaison John Wheaton stated that he was targeting August as a time frame to repair the paddle tennis court with volunteers. He stated that it may be a good idea to get a professional opinion before proceeding. He stated that he will speak with Ray Finley to get his opinion regarding the repair or replacement of the paddle tennis court. The repairs may be more involved and problematical than volunteers can manage.

John Flynn thanked the subcommittee specifically, Peggy and Lucy, for their work getting the park restoration project off the ground.

DEEPHAVEN DAYS

The Committee discussed the remaining Deephaven Days issues that need attention.

Lucy Hicks stated the Tim Sullivan needs several extra coolers to transfer the food and meat to the picnic. Coolers can be dropped at the store Thursday or Friday.

Peggy Beardsley stated that she has lined up a trailer to be used by the store.

Lucy Hicks distributed a map to each member outlining the area for each to distribute flyers. The volunteer vest have been dropped off for silk screening.

Darel Gustafson stated that he will pick up the rolls at Great Harvest.

Lucy Hicks will pick up oranges on Friday night.

Peggy Beardsley distributed a list of volunteers.

Peggy Beardsley excused herself from the meeting for a prior commitment.

Darel Gustafson reported that the route is the same. Directional engineers and the lifeguards are set. The trail route will be marked on Friday night with bio-degradable paint and post directional signs that were used last year.

Mayor Paul Skrede noted that the extension cords to be used for the band are in the warming house. Council Liaison John Wheaton has a key to the warming house.

Fifteen more volunteers are needed for the race course. Committee member will contact more volunteers and will meet again on Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. at the Cottagewood Store.

2008 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET

The Committee reviewed the 2008 budget.

Motion by Hans Larsen to recommend to Council to accept the proposed capital improvements plan and budget for 2008. Motion was seconded by Lucy Hicks. Motion carried 8-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Park Committee reviewed a letter from a Deephaven resident requesting some tree tops be trimmed to create lake views.

The Committee suggested that City Administrator Dana Young send homeowner a letter thanking them for contacting the City, but stating the City is reviewing the main beach area regarding tree and brush cutting and no action will be taken at this time.

The Committee reviewed a request by the Police Department recommending that lighting be installed near the picnic shelter at Thorpe to help prevent vandalism.

Jennifer Young requested that any lighting installed be an IDA certified light and placed to minimize light pollution.

Council Liaison John Wheaton suggested a motion detector be considered for the light because it brings attention to the fact that someone is in the area.

The Park Committee agreed to follow the police officer's recommendation and install a light at the Thorpe Park picnic shelter. Mayor Skrede and Jennifer Young will work together to select an appropriate light.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by John Flynn and seconded by Jennifer Young. Motion carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:07 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park Committee will be held on Wednesday, September 5, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Souers