

**PARK COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**June 2, 2015**  
**Minutes**

**Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman Scott Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Members Present**

Jim Elvestrom, Lindsey Carr, Scott Ferguson, Patrick Regan, and City Administrator Dana Young

**Members Absent**

Cindy Webster, Leslie Gustafson, Jonathan Weiss

**May 5, 2015 Minutes**

The Committee approved the May 5, 2015 minutes on a motion by Jim Elvestrom, seconded by Lindsey Carr. Motion carried 4-0.

**Park Reports**

Committee members provided their monthly park reports:

- Jim Elvestrom stated that he replaced the net on the adjustable basketball hoop at Thorpe Park. Dana Young thanked Jim and stated that Jim should call or email him when any of the basketball nets need to be replaced.
- Scott Ferguson stated that the mowing schedule at Thorpe Park seems very inconsistent. Dana Young stated the inconsistency is likely a combination of inclement weather and a very new and inexperienced summer mowing crew.
- Scott Ferguson stated that weeds are growing through the Thorpe tennis courts and should be treated or removed. Dana Young stated that he will inspect all the tennis courts and contact Tennis West if crack repair is needed.

**Park & Recreation Strategic Plan with Confluence**

The Park Committee met with Terry Minarik of Confluence, to provide a general overview of the Park & Recreation Strategic Plan that Confluence will be developing for the City of Deephaven.

Dana Young asked when payment of their \$16,500 contract fee would be due and if Terry had a list of their reimbursable expenses.

Terry Minarik provided a copy of their reimbursable expenses and stated that they will provide progress billing on a monthly basis.

Dana Young asked for clarification of what constituted “extra work”.

Terry Minarik stated that extra work is charged for any work that is above and beyond what has been proposed within the Strategic Plan proposal. He stated that an example of extra work would be if the city request renderings of a specific project or facility.

Scott Ferguson and Patrick Regan noted that the City Council had expressed some concern on whether the strategic plan would focus on major parks & beaches vs. minor parks & beaches. Terry Minarik stated that the plan proposes a comprehensive review of all parks, beaches, and trails. He stated that the plan may also recommend the acquisition of new park land.

Scott Ferguson noted that the City Council has actually designated Burton Park as a nature preserve.

Terry Minarik stated that the plan will provide a classification of each park.

Dana Young asked about the specific timelines for the kick-off meeting, data gathering and base mapping, walk the parks workshop, and all the other components of the Strategic Plan.

Terry Minarik stated that they will provide a specific schedule for us outlining all the steps of the Strategic Plan.

Further discussion was held on the need to publicize community workshop meetings either through the City Newsletter or social media. Lindsey Carr stated that she can help with publicizing certain events or surveys through social media.

Dana Young asked how much work would be expected from city staff and the Park Committee in developing the Strategic Plan.

Terry Minarik stated that assistance will be needed to facilitate meetings but they are primarily looking at the Park Committee to provide input and feedback.

Discussion was held on the available data, surveys and mapping for the parks.

Dana Young stated that he hasn't seen much survey data on any of the city parks or beaches and added that a number of the beaches are actually located on street ends.

Terry Minarik stated that there is quite a bit of mapping data that can be pulled off of the Hennepin County website as long as there is not the expectation that their renderings will have a high degree of accuracy.

Patrick Regan stated that our expectation is that the level of detail would be no better than what is available.

Scott Ferguson stated that one of the main benefits of the Strategic Plan is that it will tie in the projects included within the strategic plan to the City's Capital Improvement Plan.

Terry Minarik agreed that this is an important component of a strategic plan although sometimes the amount of available funding dictates which projects get funded.

Discussion was held on who should be invited to the Kickoff meeting. It was recommended that the list of invitees should include the Park Committee, City Council, the users of the park

facilities such as Minnetonka Community Education and the Minnetonka Baseball Association, and a representative from the city maintenance staff.

The Committee thanked Terry for his time and expressed their excitement for the planning process to begin.

### **Convert Platform Courts to Pickle Ball Courts**

Dana Young stated that he had received a request from Bob Woodburn, 20180 Cottagewood Road, to convert one of the Platform Courts into a Pickle Ball Court by installing new lines on the court.

It was the general consensus of the Committee to postpone any decision on the shared use of a facility until after the strategic plan has been completed, which may include plans for a future Pickle Ball Court.

### **Other**

Scott Ferguson stated that he was somewhat surprised at the posting of a laminated sign at Thorpe tennis courts that reserved court time for Minnetonka Community Education. Scott Ferguson stated that he thought it was presumptuous of MCE to post such a sign and take up so much court time well into July.

Dana Young stated that the City does not have a reservation policy for any of our park or beach facilities. However, he stated that he didn't have a particular issue with an organization like MCE posting notice of their intended use since it does provide notice to the public when the courts will be in use. He stated that this would hopefully address any potential conflict that might arise between MCE and someone using the court during MCE's scheduled time.

Scott Ferguson stated that he still didn't think that MCE should be able to allocate blocks of time for themselves and that their use should not override a resident's use of the court.

Further discussion was held on the potential establishment of park usage fees.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Scott Ferguson, seconded by Jim Elvestrom. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park Committee will be held as needed to provide input and feedback on the Strategic Plan.