

PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

April 9, 2013

Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman John Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present

John Flynn, Cindy Webster, Scott Ferguson, Leslie Gustafson and City Administrator Dana Young

Members Absent

Patrick Regan, Jim Elvestrom

March 5, 2013 Minutes

The Committee approved the March 5, 2013 minutes on a motion by Scott Ferguson, seconded by Leslie Gustafson. Motion carried 4-0.

Matters from the Floor

There were no Matters from the Floor this evening.

Thorpe Park Sidewalk Connection (Marci Roesler)

Discussion was held regarding Marci Roesler's (4059 Heathcote Road) request to install a sidewalk connection from the crosswalk to the Thorpe Park trail to allow for better access to Thorpe Park.

Motion by Leslie Gustafson to recommend the extension of the Thorpe Park trail to the crosswalk on Minnetonka Blvd near the Heathcote entrance to provide easier access to the park. Seconded by Cindy Webster. Motion carried 4-0.

Park Reports

Committee members provided their monthly park reports:

Scott Ferguson noted that the path to the platform tennis courts from the Haralson Park parking lot has been difficult due to the amount of runoff along the path. He suggested that the City should evaluate the grading of the path to remove low spots and ponding areas.

May Review of City Parks & Beaches

Dana Young recommended that the Committee conduct a tour of the following City Parks & Beaches at their May meeting:

- Haralson Park to meet with Eagle Scout candidate Thomas Dhamer to review his proposed landscaping plans
- Thorpe Park to review potential locations for a pickleball court, a shade structure, the adjustable basketball hoop, and the two new benches at Thorpe tennis court
- Deephaven Beach to review potential conflicts with the fishing pier located next to the beach area.

Dana Young suggested meeting a little earlier than usual to begin the tour of these parks and beaches.

2014 Grant Opportunities

Dana Young stated that the City has submitted three grants to the Hennepin County Youth Sports Grant over the last three years. He stated that grants have been submitted to refurbish the Village Hall tennis courts, to upgrade the playground equipment at Thorpe Park, and for the Platform Tennis Court Project. He stated that none of the three grants were approved for funding.

Dana Young stated that these grants are predicated on a 50% cost share between Hennepin County and the agency requesting funding and noted that the City has not budgeted for any extensive projects for 2013. He stated that if the City wanted to submit a future grant application, further discussion would be needed on specific projects that would benefit the youth in Deephaven. Discussion was held on the possibility of utilizing the Hennepin County Youth Sports Grant towards the renovation of Shuck Park.

Request for Pickleball Court

Further discussion was held on the request by Melinda Colwell for the installation of a pickleball court at Thorpe Park. Dana Young distributed a sketch drawing by Ms. Colwell showing the potential location of two pickleball courts at the Thorpe Park basketball court. He stated that the City Council held a brief discussion on the issue at their last meeting and seemed to prefer using the Thorpe Park basketball court as a potential site for a pickleball court rather than the Thorpe Park tennis courts.

Cindy Webster stated that she has had a pickleball court at her cabin for over 30 years and stated that she didn't think a pickleball court would fit well on the basketball court due to the rough bituminous service. She stated that the court should really be on an asphalt service and questioned whether we would need to install two courts at this time.

John Flynn stated that a pickleball court could potentially be located between the tennis court and ice rink along Hamilton Avenue.

Leslie Gustafson noted that it's unfortunate that only one resident has approached the City about installing a pickleball court because it's hard to judge how many residents would be interested in the sport.

The Committee decided to review potential pickleball court locations next month during the tour of Thorpe Park.

Fishing Pier at Deephaven Main Beach

Dana Young stated that discussion was held at the March 18, 2013 City Council meeting about potential concerns about the proximity of the fishing pier next to the swimming beach. He stated the Council discussed whether a "No Fishing Sign during Swimming Hours" should be posted or whether fishing should be prohibited on the north side of the pier.

Further discussion on a fishing pier issue will be held next month during the tour of the pier and the swimming beach area.

Other

Further discussion was held on the progress of the heating units at the platform courts and the extent of the Park Committee's involvement in the South Lake Minnetonka Parks Summit.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Scott Ferguson, seconded by Leslie Gustafson. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2013.