

**PARK COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**January 8, 2019**  
**Minutes**

**Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman Patrick Regan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Members Present**

Patrick Regan, Scott Hemink, Tracy Whitney, Wendy Duren, Tom Erdmann, Tony Jewett, and City Administrator Dana Young

**Members Absent**

Scott Ferguson and Lindsey Carr

**December 4, 2018 Minutes**

The Committee approved the December 4, 2018 Park Committee minutes as amended on a motion by Wendy Duren, seconded by Tom Erdmann. Motion carried 5-0.

**Matters from the Floor**

There were no Matters from the Floor this evening.

**Park Reports**

Dana Young gave a brief update on the condition of the rinks in light of the recent warm weather.

Patrick Regan suggested repainting the exterior of the hockey rink at Thorpe Park in order to extend the life of the wood.

Scott Hemink noted that the angle of the roof on the new warming house is causing a lot of water runoff onto the sidewalk. He further recommended purchasing additional rubber mats to the bathroom, in the lobby area, and out the doors.

Patrick Regan suggested purchasing Grano 9002 flooring mats.

Tony Jewett asked the Committee to compile a list of improvements to be made at the warming house for inclusion in the 2019 Budget. He noted that spending on the warming house is over for this year.

Wendy Duren suggested installing baby changing tables in the bathrooms and installing hooks along the interior wall of the warming house. She further suggested the purchase of a fourth hockey net for the rink.

Tony Jewett stated that he heard that there was over 40 kids skating at Thorpe Park a couple of Sundays ago and people seem to be very excited about the new facilities.

### **Discuss Bikeway Grant Request for Proposals**

Patrick Regan stated that the objective this evening is to review the proposals submitted by Toole Design, Kimley Horn, Alta and Bolton & Menk, establish an interview committee to meet with the top proposals, establish a date for the interviews, and establish criteria to evaluate the proposals.

Patrick Regan provided his overview of the four proposals by stating that Alta & Toole have submitted the most comprehensive proposals, which accounts for their higher design price. He stated that Kimley Horn is qualified but not as specialized. He stated that Bolton & Menk is more of a civil engineer.

Scott Hemink agreed that Alta and Toole have more expertise.

Wendy Duren agreed and noted that Alta included additional time provided by the project engineer. She stated that Alta provides a multi-disciplinary approach to this project.

Patrick Regan stated that Alta and Toole would provide good quantitative data and both would want to make PowerPoint presentations at the interview.

Tony Jewett stated that the last time we talked about the bikeway feasibility study was at a City Council meeting. He stated that one of the discussion items was where this trail should go. He stated that he wouldn't send his kids down Minnetonka Blvd and would prefer to have them use a proposed trail going down Heathcote. He asked if we would rather have the firms focus on the feasibility of a trail to Thorpe Park and from Thorpe Park down Heathcote rather than on Minnetonka Blvd. He stated that money would be better spent not looking at Minnetonka Blvd.

Scott Hemink agreed that kid traffic would be better served using Heathcote. However, he envisioned that the more expert bicyclists would continue to use Minnetonka Blvd. He stated that this portion of the study would focus on the feasibility of providing a safe bike route on Minnetonka Blvd.

Patrick Regan noted that the feasibility study covers three components – Chowen's Corner to Hwy 101, Chowen's Corner to Thorpe Park, and Thorpe Park to Heathcote. If the latter route is not available, the study requires a review of what alternate routes are available.

Tony Jewett stated that there is an appetite to have that conversation with the property owner on Heathcote Road over the use of his property for access to the trail. The property owner already allows people to cross their property to access the LRT Trail, which already raises some liability issues. He stated that the City obtaining access over this trail would alleviate this liability. He stated that the project engineer on the Minnetonka Blvd Resurfacing Project will also be looking at the possibility of a bike path.

Tom Erdmann stated that it is going to get emotional to look at a bike route on Minnetonka Blvd and how to get to Deephaven Elementary School. He stated that we need to have public involvement in this discussion.

Patrick Regan noted that several of the proposals include multiple public meetings and they will need to obtain public input one way or the other.

Wendy Duren noted that both Alta and Toole would be able to provide a much better explanation on the feasibility of the bike routes to the public.

Tony Jewett stated that he just doesn't want to get lost in the evaluation of Minnetonka Blvd. He stated that the design firms need to be better directed.

Dana Young stated that Bolton & Menk have just recently been selected as the Project Engineer on the Minnetonka Blvd Resurfacing Project. They will have to work in coordination with the Bikeway Feasibility Design Team to evaluate the feasibility of a bike route on Minnetonka Blvd so that there is no overlap of work between the two design teams. He added that there is a real benefit to having a separate firm, other than Bolton & Menk, evaluate potential bike routes.

Wendy Duren asked if the City of Minnetonka was on board with the portion of the study extending into Minnetonka.

Patrick Regan stated that he didn't think there was an issue with Minnetonka.

The Committee selected Toole Design, Alta, and Kimberly Horne to be interviewed. Tom Erdmann, Scott Hemink and Wendy Duren were selected to serve on the Interview Team, with the interviews to be held starting at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Patrick Regan to authorize the Interview Committee to make the final selection of the firm designing the Bikeway Feasibility Study. Seconded by Tracy Whitney. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Thorpe Multi-Use Facility Reservation & Use Policy**

Wendy Duren stated that she provided a schedule of usage survey from other communities for our review.

Tony Jewett stated that he would highly recommend not renting out the warming house or ice during the winter months. He stated that people were very upset when the City tried to rent out the warming house and hockey rink to an association. He stated that the facility should have a non-exclusive use.

Wendy Duren suggested tabling further discussion on this issue until February.

Scott Hemink stated that baseball teams may want to rent out the warming house this spring.

Patrick Regan suggested that the Cub Scouts may also be interested.

Tom Erdmann stated that he wouldn't be surprised if the City started getting call on reserving the warming house.

The Committee suggested that the warming house should be rented to residents only and further recommended putting notice of the rental opportunities in the Deephaven Newsletter.

### **Discuss Shuck Park Meeting**

The Committee recommended that Tom Erdmann, Patrick Regan and Dana Young attend the neighborhood meeting at the Cottagewood Store at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the proposed schedule of improvements at Shuck Park in 2019. Notice of the meeting will be sent via the Cottagewood distribution email and on NextDoorDeephaven.

### **Discuss Fitness Court Program**

Wendy Duren noted that a Fitness Court costs \$90,000, with the City paying \$60,000 of the cost and a grant covering the remaining \$30,000. She stated that there will be a Fitness Court opening somewhere in the Twin Cities area later this year that we can check out. She added that this seems to be a lot of money for what it is.

Further discussion was held on other amenities that could replace the existing sports court at Deephaven Beach.

### **Discuss 2019 Committee Membership**

Motion by Scott Hemink to recommend the appointment of Wendy Duren as 2019 Chair of the Park Committee. Seconded by Tom Erdmann. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Scott Hemink to recommend the reappointment of Patrick Regan to an additional one year term of office, effective until February 2020. Seconded by Tracy Whitney. Motion carried 5-0.

Further discussion on 2019 Committee memberships will be held next month.

### **Other**

Wendy Duren asked if plans were in the works to use the donation given by the Loftus's to landscape the Thorpe Park parking island this year. Dana Young stated that the City intended to landscape this area this spring.

Wendy Duren asked about whether there had been any discussion with the School District on maintaining the connection off of the LRT to Deephaven Elementary School. Dana Young stated that he hasn't talked with the school yet and asked Wendy to send him an email outlining her proposed maintenance schedule.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting of the Park Committee will be held on February 5, 2019.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Tracy Whitney, seconded by Patrick Regan. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.