

PARK COMMITTEE MEETING
March 10, 2020
Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Wendy Duren called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Wendy Duren, Scott Hemink, Cory Lepper, Kaisha Rafferty, Tracy Whitney, Melissa McNeill, and City Administrator Dana Young

Members Absent

Tom Erdmann and Lindsey Carr

Approve January 7, 2020 & February 4, 2020 Minutes

Motion by Tracy Whitney to approve the January 7, 2020 & February 4, 2020 Park Committee minutes. Seconded by Scott Hemink. Motion carried 5-0.

Council Updates

Dana Young provided an update on the Shuck Park Tennis Court bids. He stated that the City received 8 bids and the Council approved the low bid submitted by Minnesota Roadways in the amount of \$84,295.00.

Further discussion was held on the installation of a basketball hoop at one end of the resurfaced courts.

Park Reports

Dana Young stated that the ice rinks and warming houses closed on February 24th.

Wendy Duren asked whether rubber mats for the Thorpe Park warming house had been included in the budget.

Dana Young stated that the 2021 Budget has not started yet and he would ask Tony Jewett about whether he had any luck in procuring rubber mats.

Discuss Ball Field Fence Proposal

Simon Handwerker, 18080 Fairhomes Lane, was present to propose an Eagle Scout Project that would provide dugout fencing at the Thorpe Park ball field located at the corner of Rutledge Road and Westview Drive. He stated that he is a 10th grader who is active in Scout Troop 345 and would love the opportunity to do this project in order to obtain the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Committee reviewed Simon's handout describing the proposed project.

Cory Lepper asked Simon about the potential cost of the fencing and on the proposed fundraising efforts.

Simon Handwerger stated that he is hoping for funding from the Veteran's Association, the Minnetonka Baseball Association, and possibly from Home Depot and Menard's, who are both very supportive of Eagle Scout projects.

Cory Lepper asked about project timelines.

Simon Handwerger stated that it should take 2-3 weekends and will likely be done in the fall.

Wendy Duren noted that the fencing should last quite a while and be low maintenance for the City.

Motion by Kaisha Rafferty to recommend approval of the dugout fencing project presented by Simon Handwerger. Seconded by Tracy Whitney. Motion carried 5-0.

Appoint 2020 Committee Chair & Vice-Chair

Motion by Tracy Whitney to reappoint Wendy Duren as 2020 Park Committee Chair and Scott Hemink as 2020 Park Committee Vice-Chair. Seconded by Cory Lepper. Motion carried 5-0.

Review Bikeway Survey Results

The Committee reviewed the survey results provided by Toole Design.

Wendy Duren asked if we could be provided the raw data. She wondered if the survey could be revised to just include input from Deephaven residents.

Kaisha Rafferty stated that it would also be helpful to get a more focused summary of the comments that were listed at the end of the survey.

Tracy Whitney noted that the comments are all over the place.

Scott Hemink stated that the dynamics don't change significantly between the preferences for enhanced shoulders vs. off-street bike path.

Wendy Duren requested that the Committee members contact Dana Young by Monday, March 16th with any comments regarding potential revisions or additions to the survey.

Scott Hemink stated that he thought it would be helpful if there was some clarification on some of the bike route categories listed in the survey.

Cory Lepper noted that most of the comments seemed to fall into three areas: 1) provide a bike route to Deephaven Elementary School 2) don't really care about bikers 3) environmental concerns about tree removal to accommodate an off-street bikeway.

Discuss Deephaven Beach Discussion with City Council

Discussion was held about a potential meeting with the City Council to discuss the Committee's role in the Deephaven Beach Restroom Project.

Scott Hemink stated that it would be helpful to get feedback from the Council on potential Park Committee goals and obtaining some direction on what role the Council would like to play in the development of plans for the Deephaven Beach Restroom Project.

Dana Young stated that there hasn't been a lot of discussion on the Deephaven Beach Restroom Project at the Council level but the Council planned to discuss the initial planning for this project at a Special Council Work Session on April 6th.

Melissa McNeill stated that she would be able to come back to the Committee with the Council's direction on goals and the restroom project at the April 7th Park Committee meeting. She stated that she hopes that information on the Deephaven Beach Restroom Project will be presented much more clearly than the Thorpe Park Warming House Project due to improvements to the new webpage.

She stated that it is her understanding of the Deephaven Beach Restroom Project that there is a finite budget for the project, which might include grant funding, the Council hoped that a local builder might be interested in constructing the project, and the building may include some sort of food service.

She stated that one of the primary reasons the Council may be interested in selling Pump Park or Hill Park is to provide funding for the Deephaven Beach Restroom Project.

Further discussion was held on the potential impact of selling either Pump Park or Hill Park. Kaisha Rafferty expressed her concern that Pump Park provided a safe pathway off of Minnetonka Blvd to Thorpe Park.

Dana Young stated that the Council will have another discussion on whether to sell Pump Park or Hill Park on March 16th.

Discuss 2020 Committee Goals

More discussion on 2020 Committee goals will be held at the April 7th meeting after obtaining further direction from the City Council.

Other

Wendy Duren asked to discuss security at the Thorpe Park warming house at the April 7th Park Committee meeting.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Park Committee will be held on April 7, 2020.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Wendy Duren, seconded by Tracy Whitney. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.