

**PARK COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**May 7, 2019**  
**Minutes**

**Call Meeting to Order**

Vice-Chairman Scott Hemink called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Members Present**

Wendy Duren, Patrick Regan, Tom Erdmann, Tracy Corens, Tony Jewett, and City Administrator Dana Young

**Members Absent**

Lindsey Carr and Scott Hemink

**March 5, 2019, 2018 Minutes**

The Committee approved the March 5, 2019 Park Committee minutes on a motion by Patrick Regan, seconded by Tom Erdmann. Motion carried 4-0.

**Matters from the Floor**

There were no Matters from the Floor this evening.

**Park Reports**

Tom Erdmann presented a Cottagewood Area Parks Spring Maintenance report that included:

- Accessibility issues at the Bay Street street end for the proposed fishing area – discussion was held on a storm water project recently completed in the street end and the landscaping of the street end by the adjoining property owner
- Status update on the Burton Park fishing pier project – need to determine the location of the “fishing hole” in the Back Bay and the proposed redesign of the fishing pier
- The Children’s Park fountain repair project – Tom Erdmann stated that he will talk to the Cottagewood Store about installing a new water line, repairing the fountain, and potentially removing the gravel area surrounding the fountain
- A request for an additional trash can at Children’s Park – Park Committee stated that they are not comfortable requesting a special trash can at Children’s Park without establishing a uniform trash can plan for all parks
- Children’s Park gazebo repairs – the public works crew will be notified
- Village Hall Park ball field & bench improvements – Patrick Regan stated that we are waiting on proposed improvements from the Minnetonka Baseball Association
- A request to use the Village Hall hockey rink for soccer practice – Committee recommended waiting until more information is received from Tonka United on the need for additional soccer fields
- Village Hall warming house & path repairs – Dana Young stated he will inform the public works crew and that the warming house is scheduled to be replaced in 2023
- Village Hall drinking fountain repairs – the public works crew will be notified
- Village Hall gazebo repairs – the public works crew will be notified

- Village Hall tennis court repairs – Dana Young stated that the courts are scheduled to be resurfaced in 2021
- Sandy Beach garbage can enclosure needs repair - the public works crew will be notified
- Install a garbage can enclosure at Rocky Beach – the public works crew will be notified
- Install a crosswalk on Minnetonka Blvd for the LRT Trail – Tony Jewett noted that Police Chief Johnson does not favor a pedestrian crosswalk on Minnetonka Blvd due to concerns that it would actually undermine the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists on the LRT Trail looking to cross Minnetonka Blvd

Patrick Regan noted that Nocomo Beach could use some sand.

Discussion was held on repairs needed on the Thorpe Park pathway. Dana Young stated that the City will likely resurface the pathway during an upcoming street resurfacing project. Until that time, the pathway will continue to be repaired by the public works crew.

### **Recommend the Appointment of Kaisha Rafferty to Park Committee**

Wendy Duren stated that she interviewed Kaisha Rafferty for the vacant Park Committee position and recommends the appointment of Kaisha Rafferty to fill the position.

Motion by Wendy Duren to recommend the appointment of Kaisha Rafferty to a three-year term of office effective until February 2022. Seconded by Patrick Regan. Motion carried 6-0.

Dana Young asked Patrick if he still is able to serve on the Park Committee. Patrick stated that, at the present time, he believes he will be able to continue to serve.

Discussion was held on Lindsey Carr's inability to attend the May, June & July Park Committee meetings due to a conflict with her daughter's sports schedule. The Committee felt that there was no need to find another candidate since Lindsey was only going to miss the next three months.

### **Discuss Shuck Park Playground Equipment / Tennis Court**

Discussion was held regarding the Shuck Park project, which included the purchase of new playground equipment in the amount of \$35,000 and the reconstruction of the tennis courts for \$50,000. Discussion included the views expressed at the Shuck Park Neighborhood meeting and the challenges of trying to redesign the park by selecting new play equipment and trying to determine whether to reconstruct both tennis courts or convert one the courts by adding pickle ball courts and a half court basketball court.

Dana Young stated that there just isn't sufficient time for the Park Committee to successfully undertake the redesign of Shuck Park in a six month period that tries to combine the wishes of the neighborhood residents, the ability of the Committee to redesign the park, and to keep the project on budget.

Tom Erdmann suggested asking the playground contractors to submit a park design that would include their proposed playground equipment. The Committee recognized that the neighborhood was very interested in retaining their current swing sets.

Tony Jewett stated that instead of waiting for a more comprehensive redesign of the park, he suggested moving forward with the reconstruction of the two tennis courts and adding a half court basketball court. He noted that the residents at the neighborhood meeting supported the need to retain the tennis courts and didn't seem all that interested in converting one of the courts to another use, other than requesting the addition of a half court basketball court.

Motion by Wendy Duren to recommend that the City Council authorize bids on the reconstruction of the two Shuck Park tennis courts and the installation of a new half court basketball court to replace the existing smaller court. Seconded by Patrick Regan. Motion carried 4-0. Dana Young suggested that the basketball court could be bid as an alternate.

### **Discuss Bikeway Feasibility Study / Open House**

Discussion was held on the feedback that was received from the Open House that was held to present the upcoming 2019 Street Reconstruction Projects and on the proposed bike paths. Dana Young presented the survey results pertaining to bike paths for Committee review.

Dana Young stated that a meeting will be held with Toole Design next week to provide an update on the progress of the feasibility study. He stated that he is looking forward to receiving Toole Design's report on the feasibility of installing expended and/or separate pathways along Minnetonka Blvd.

Wendy Duren stated that she had talked with Steve Erickson and Kent Carlson at the last bikeway design meeting about posting the bike and street design plans from the Open House on the website portal.

Further discussion was held on the striping of Minnetonka Blvd once the street has been resurfaced and whether it will be striped for 12' or 11' foot driving lanes. Patrick Regan stated that he would like to see some accommodation for a bike and walking path by creating 5 foot walkways. He noted that Minnetonka Blvd is a designated bikeway according to Hennepin County.

Motion by Patrick Regan to recommend that the City Council establish 11' driving lanes on Minnetonka Blvd to allow for 5' walkways to enhance the safety of pedestrians or bicyclists on a street that has been designated as a bikeway. Seconded by Tracy Corens. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Other**

Discussion was held on a proposed bridge at Thorpe Park over the ditch between Rutledge Road and the Thorpe Park path.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting of the Park Committee will be held on June 4, 2019.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Tom Erdmann, seconded by Tracy Corens. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.