

PARK COMMITTEE MEETING
October 1, 2019
Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Wendy Duren called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present

Wendy Duren, Scott Hemink, Lindsey Carr, Tracy Corens, Tony Jewett, and City Administrator Dana Young

Members Absent

Tom Erdmann and Kaisha Rafferty

September 3, 2019 Minutes

The Committee approved the September 3, 2019 Park Committee minutes on a motion by Tracy Corens, seconded by Lindsey Carr. Motion carried 4-0.

Council Updates

Scott Hemink suggested that Northome Blvd should be widened when it is resurfaced next year. He stated that this street gets a lot of pedestrian traffic, particularly to Robinson's Bay Beach.

Dana Young stated that he would pass this along to the Council representatives who work with the City Engineer on the design of the road to see if this would be feasible.

Scott Hemink asked why that section of Minnetonka Blvd between Park Avenue and Walden Trail narrows to less than 32 feet.

Dana Young surmised that it might have to do with the steepness of the slopes bordering the road but he stated that he would check with the engineer.

Park Reports

Dana Young reported on the following items outstanding from the last meeting:

- The Council has included a second street sweeping in the 2020 Budget.
- The Public Works crew will be able to remove the buckthorne on the Thorpe Park Island this winter.
- Park hours are from 6:00 a.m. to midnight.
- The Warming House mats are identical to the mats used at City Hall.
- In regards to the request from the Minnetonka Baseball Association for new ball field benches – the condition of the benches will be reviewed and replaced if needed. The request for new ball field fences is unlikely due to the impact on other uses of the park.
- The Cleveland Park erosion has been repaired.

Scott Hemink stated that he is an Eagle Scout Advisor and the reconstruction of the ball field benches could be a potential Eagle Scout project.

Tony Jewett stated that, in regards to the mats that are currently used at the Warming House, he is looking into the possibility of obtaining rubber mats similar to the kind that they use at the Pagel Center.

Wendy Duren noted that the Warming House appears to be unlocked. Dana Young stated that public works may need have to change out the locks. Tony Jewett stated that he noticed that the bathrooms in a park in Edina are open from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. and lock automatically. He stated that this could be an option we explore.

Discussion was held regarding warming house attendants and counting the attendance at the Warming House. Dana Young stated that the City is planning on having warming house attendants this season and we could ask them to do a head count on an hourly basis.

Tony Jewett stated that both Tonka Bay and Shorewood have warming house attendants. He wasn't sure about Minnetonka.

Discuss Shuck Park Playground Equipment

Dana Young stated that he has contacted Minnesota Wisconsin Playground Equipment and St. Croix Equipment and both companies will be submitting their recommendations on swings, see saws, climbing structures and digger toys for the December 3rd Park Committee meeting.

Wendy Duren suggested other types of playground equipment that could be reviewed. She stated that she wouldn't mind seeing a merry-go-round at Shuck Park, since there aren't any merry-go-rounds in any other park. The Committee unanimously agreed that a merry-go-round should be added to the list of equipment to be reviewed at the December 3rd meeting.

Discuss Shuck Park Tennis Court Project

Wendy Duren asked if we were all in on the plan to reconstruct two tennis courts and a half-court basketball court at Shuck Park.

Scott Hemink noted that the courts are very expensive and suggested converting one of the courts to a basketball court.

Tony Jewett stated that he talked to the owner of Lee Sports Surfacing and was told that he just does the installation of the courts once the asphalt has been set down. He stated that he was told that the rebuilding of these two courts should cost a total of \$50,000-\$60,000. He stated that he is hopeful that asphalt contractors will bid it more reasonably this spring.

Scott Hemink stated that he would recommend turning it into a multi-use court in order to get more use out of it. He stated that he hasn't heard from anyone who wants to go with just one court and we are too far along to evaluate the total number of courts in Deephaven. He suggested stripping one of the courts for basketball and remove the existing old basketball court.

Wendy Duren agreed that the old basketball court should be removed for additional green space.

Tony Jewett stated that he has heard that residents either don't care about the courts or support having two courts. No one is saying get rid of one of the courts.

Wendy Duren summarized the discussion by stating that it is the consensus of the Committee to reconstruct one of the courts for tennis, stripe one-half of the second court for basketball, and move forward with the bids on the two courts.

Accept Resignation of Patrick Regan / Discuss New Members

Motion by Scott Hemink to accept the resignation of Patrick Regan effective September 3, 2019.

Seconded by Wendy Duren. Motion carried 4-0.

The Committee reviewed the list of Volunteer Applicants and suggested interviewing Cory Lepper for the vacant position.

Lindsey Carr stated that his experience as a landscape architect would be very helpful to the Committee.

Tony Jewett also noted that Cory Lepper lives across from Donkey Park and volunteered his time to make a number of very nice improvements to the park.

Other

Wendy Duren stated that it may now be time to present the Bikeway Feasibility Study to the public now that the Minnetonka Blvd Project is completed. Dana Young stated that he would mention this to the City Council.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Park Committee will be held on December 3, 2019. Dana Young stated that School Board elections will be held at Deephaven City Hall on November 5th.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Scott Hemink, seconded by Tracy Corens. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.