

***PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING – NOVEMBER 3, 2016
MINUTES***

The Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting of the Andover Park and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Stenzel on November 3, 2016, 7:00 p.m., at the Andover City Hall, 1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW, Andover, Minnesota.

Commissioners Present: Chair Shane Stenzel, Vice Chair Jim Lindahl
Commissioners Ted Butler, Sarah Elstrom, Alisa Lewnau,
Angela Marinello, and Mark Miskowiec.

Commissioners Absent: None

Also Present: Assistant Public Works Director, Todd Haas
Natural Resources Technician, Kameron Kytonen
Parks Maintenance Supervisor, Jason Grode

RESIDENT FORUM

No one appeared to address the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Lewnau, seconded by Marinello, to approve the October 6, 2016 Park Commission minutes as presented. Motion carried on a 7-ayes, 0-nays, 0-absent vote.

HOLD PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING / 14-15 / FOX MEADOWS PARK

Mr. Haas explained that this item is in regard to the layout of Fox Meadows Park, which was presented to the Park and Recreation Commission at their October 6, 2016 meeting. He presented the draft park layout, noting that based on direction from the last Commission meeting, which identifies on the plan two soccer/football/lacrosse fields, one being full sized and the other being a medium sized field for younger aged groups. Mr. Haas pointed out the full-size field has been shifted farther north and west, somewhat closer to the parking lot. He provided 2017-2021 Capital Improvement Plan for the City which identifies specific projects being considered over the next 5 years. He also provided pictures of the park near the existing parking lot taken earlier today looking south towards the existing sliding hill and field. He noted part of this area would be graded and the new fields are proposed to be irrigated. A consulting engineer will be hired to determine the location of the irrigation well.

Chair Stenzel asked how far away the pipelines have to be from the well. Mr. Haas stated the pipe line company will determine that and a discussion of this will occur at the preconstruction meeting at which time questions could be asked.

Commissioner Lindahl asked if there will be a passage way to the smaller field or a trail connecting the two fields. Mr. Haas stated there will be some sort of trail system and walkways in the plan. He stated if they have specific ideas the Commission can request that they be added into the plans.

Chair Stenzel opened the meeting for public comment.

Mr. David Olson, attorney representing Rita and John Burgeson, appeared and stated he spoke at the October 6, 2016 Commission meeting on their concerns. He reiterated that their primary concern with the field is the location and it being too close to their property. He stated the Burgeson's have had issues with nuisance and harassment with the park near their property and worry it will become exacerbated with the fields being closer to their property line and request they put the fields in to the northwest of the Burgeson's property. Mr. Olson also asked to receive any information as it becomes available as to the plans for this project. Mr. Haas stated they will be informed as the plans become available.

Mr. Jerry Neises, 4101 S. Enchanted Drive, was present and addressed the Commission. He stated he is happy the park is being updated and the fields are going in. He stated he is a hobby bee keeper and would like to request that the Commission consider putting some wildflowers or something similar to help his bee's and others remain viable.

Commissioner Miskoweic stated the corner not being used in the field plans would make a good place for those flowers. Mr. Haas stated he believes that area would be a location for some of those flowers and plants as well as they can probably put more in other locations, but noted they will know more in the spring once the grading is done and what will work best.

Chair Stenzel asked what the Commission thinks about putting a trail around the fields as suggested in their packets. Commissioner Butler stated he thinks it is a great idea. He noted if it doesn't fit in the budget right now than they could add it to the plans now and construct it out at a later date.

Commissioner Miskoweic asked if they are saving a substantial amount by waiting to create the trail now. Mr. Haas stated they will save some funds if they leave it in the plan and have it graded now even if they wait to pave it until a later date because it will save on the mobilization fees which are already covered in the contract for this other portion of the project.

Commissioner Lindahl stated he thinks including the trail system in the plan now is a good idea and he stated he is happy they will have a lot of activity going on in those fields and he is hopeful it will hinder the vandalism issues in the park.

Commissioner Lindahl asked if they have some plants in mind for providing screening in the southeast corner. Mr. Haas stated Mr. Kytonen could look at the options for that area. Mr. Haas stated the first thing they need to do is approve a plan and grade the site before any new trees are planted.

Motion by Lindahl, seconded by Marinello, to recommend approval of the proposed plan to the City Council with addition of a perimeter trail system, along with recommending an alternate bid for grading, paving and curbing of the parking lot. Motion carried on a 7-ayes, 0-nays, 0-absent vote.

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF BLEACHER / 16-12 / TIMBER TRAILS PARK BALL FIELD

Mr. Haas explained that this item is in regard to the purchase of a bleacher for the Timber Trails Park ball field, which was just completed. He noted a bleacher is not a requirement but would be a nice amenity for those who prefer to watch the game from behind home plate. Mr. Haas presented the cost estimates to the Commission.

Mr. Dean Polsfut, President of Andover Baseball Association, stated the new parks are great and everyone has enjoyed them. He stated the one thing many people have commented on is that they would love to see bleachers at the fields. He stated it is recommended that 3 rows go in at each field.

Commissioner Miskoweic asked what the freight cost would be in addition to the cost listed. Mr. Haas stated around \$200 per set of bleachers.

Commissioner Marinello asked if the Baseball Association would be willing to contribute any money to this project. Mr. Polsfut stated they have a few other things in mind they think could be great additions to some of the stations as well so they would be open to having a broader discussion with the Commission to see if there is a joint plan that they could work on together and both contribute to.

Chair Stenzel stated that is a good idea and stated they should table this item and set a workshop to discuss other items with the Baseball Association.

It was the consensus of the Park and Recreation Commission to table this item and schedule a future workshop.

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF BLEACHER / 14-24 / ANDOVER LIONS PARK BALL FIELD

Mr. Haas explained that this item is in regard to the purchase of a bleacher for the Andover Lions Park ball field, which was just completed. He noted a bleacher is not a requirement but would be a nice amenity for those who prefer to watch the game from behind home plate. Mr. Haas stated this item is a combined item with the previously discussed item and stated this will be tabled for a future workshop item as well per the Commission's request.

ANOKA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT 3RD QUARTERLY REPORT

Mr. Haas noted the Anoka County Sheriff's Office report on third quarter activity was included in the meeting packet. He Butler asked if there have been any further leads on the recent arsons. Mr. Grode stated the fire department was reviewing information a few weeks ago but he hasn't heard anything since. Commissioner Lindahl stated he urges the public to call if they see any criminal activity occurring.

Informational; no action required.

PARK DEDICATION IMPROVEMENT FUND 3RD QUARTERLY REPORT / FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Haas noted the Park Improvement Fund third quarter report was included in the meeting packet. He stated Maple View Park cost is just under \$100,000. Commissioner Butler stated the revenue is 2 ½ times the budget which is great growth. The Commission agreed. Mr. Haas noted they have 2 other parks coming up as well

Informational; no action required.

REVIEW OUTSTANDING ITEMS

Mr. Haas reviewed on-going projects and items of interest along with the weekly parks maintenance update.

Commissioner Butler stated they are looking at data for the Community Center expansion. They are trying to determine the key roles in keeping the community center so busy. He stated they are going into the busy season with winter sports coming up so they hope to continue to gather information to use for the future expansion plans.

Mr. Gorde provided an update on park maintenance. He stated the mowing frequency has gone down which has allowed them to start on other projects. They have completed the last fertilizations and are working on irrigations. He stated they completed playground inspections this past week. He noted this included; doing repair work, ordering parts

needed for playgrounds, collecting baseball field bases, and winterizing areas and equipment.

Commissioner Lindahl asked if they can post anything to prohibit snowmobilers from driving on the new fields. Mr. Grode stated they didn't plan on that but they certainly can post some signs around the parks and trails. Mr. Grode stated a split fence could also be an option to ensure they don't have access to the fields.

CHAIR'S REPORT

None.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Commissioner Lewnau, seconded by Commissioner Butler, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:43 p.m. Motion carried on a 7-ayes, 0-nays, 0-absent vote.

The Workshop Meeting of the Andover Park and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Stenzel on November 3, 2016, 7:44 p.m. at the Andover City Hall, 1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW, Andover, Minnesota.

Commissioners Present: Chair Shane Stenzel, Vice Chair Jim Lindahl,
Commissioners Ted Butler, Sarah Elstrom, Alisa Lewnau,
Angela Marinello, and Mark Miskowiec

Commissioners Absent: None

Also Present: Assistant Public Works Director, Todd Haas
Natural Resources Technician Kameron Kytonen
Parks Maintenance Supervisor, Jason Grode

***UPDATE ON THE EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB) / NATURAL RESOURCE
TECHNICIAN***

Mr. Haas explained that this item is in regard to the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), which is an invasive pest that kills native ash trees. EAB was found in Andover in August so it now threatens to spread to other parts of the City.

Mr. Kytonen stated now is a good time to plan ahead for the park systems. He there are a lot of ash trees and if they are not treated they will die. He stated there are many things to consider when making a decision on how to proceed.

Commissioner Miskowiec asked if it's cheaper to replace the infected trees with other trees or if it is cheaper to treat the infected trees. Mr. Kytonen stated the most cost

effective way would probably be to do a bit of treating on some trees and replacing others.

Commissioner Butler asked how successful the treatments are. Mr. Kytonen stated they are about 95% effective and cost about \$150.00 – 200.00 per injection. He stated one injection would be good for about 2 years per tree. Mr. Kytonen stated the cost to remove a tree free from obstacles would cost about \$100.00 a tree.

Chair Stenzel asked what the cost of a new tree would be. Mr. Kytonen stated new bare root trees to plant would cost about \$40.00 per a tree.

Commissioner Miskowiec stated he thinks being proactive about this issue is best so they don't end up like Minneapolis and lose all their trees at the same time. Mr. Kytonen stated they have already started acting on this issue and have been using other tree types such as elms and maple trees whenever possible.

Commissioner Lewnau asked what the life span of the ash trees are if they are treated. Mr. Kytonen stated they can last as long as 80 years. Commissioner Lewnau stated in that case if they decided to treat the infected trees every 2 years it would end up costing roughly \$5,000.00 a tree through its life span. Mr. Kytonen stated that is correct.

Mr. Kytonen stated he suggests dealing with the trees closest to the playgrounds and deal with the others in the forest areas later if at all. He stated in another year or so they will have a better idea how fast this is growing.

Mr. Kytonen stated would they want to start with the Epicenter and begin looking at the top 15-20 parks with the highly dense areas. Chair Stenzel stated that's a good place to start.

Commissioner Lindahl stated seeing an inventory of recommended parks and trees with the highest density would be a good starting point.

It was the consensus of the Park and Recreation Commission to recommend staff gather more information and data on the trees and parks, targeting those with the highest density of infestation to determine either treatment or removal based on further review by the Commission.

UPDATE OF 2016 EXISTING AND FUTURE PARK FACILITIES CHART / PARK ZONE C AND D

Mr. Haas explained that this item is an update on the 2016 Existing and Future Park Facilities Chart for Park Zones C and D, which was included in the meeting packet. He noted Zone C is currently being prepared by staff and once a draft is completed, a copy will be provided to the Commissioners for review prior to the November 17, 2016

meeting. Mr. Haas stated the Zone D chart is scheduled for discussion at the December 1 or 15, 2016 meeting.

Informational; no action required.

UPDATE OF ROSE PARK / 14-13, CONT.

Mr. Haas explained that this item is an update in regard to Rose Park. He reported that to date, staff has not heard back from the individual who attended the September 15, 2016 meeting about potential improvements to the park. Staff has left information at this person's house asking them to contact staff about this matter. Mr. Haas stated staff will continue attempts to make contact with this homeowner. He stated they are asking for input about indoor restrooms at this park or every park. Haas stated it would be nice to have some of those that automatically lock at a certain locations.

Informational; no action required.

ADJOURNMENT OF WORKSHOP MEETING

Motion by Butler, seconded by Miskowiec, to adjourn the workshop meeting at 8:09 p.m. Motion carried on a 7-ayes, 0-nays, 0-absent vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michaela Kujawa-Daniels, Recording Secretary
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.