

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

JUNE 9, 2008

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Earney opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Committee Members present: Chair Gene Earney, Vice Chair Kristi Uphoff, Katrine Nau and Denise McDowall Seyko. Committee Member Absent: Brad Schnitzler, Planning Commission Liaison Scott Marotz and City Council Liaison Patricia May. Also Present: Public Works Director Michael Goebel, Senior City Planner Katie Larsen and Mr. John Duffy and Mr. Jeff Von Feldt of Duffy Development.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member Nau motioned to accept the May 12, 2008 minutes as presented. Seconded by Committee Member Uphoff, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3A. BIG LAKE HOMES CONCEPT PLAN AND PARK DEDICATION FEES

The City received a revised Concept Plan for Big Lake Homes by Duffy Development. Duffy Development is requesting a reduction in park fees in lieu of the park trail and tot lot. As part of the housing development, the applicant is applying for grant funding to assist with development costs. This is a very competitive funding source and the applicant will score points for fee reductions. Mr. John Duffy reviewed the revised Concept Plan and is proposing giving the park trail system to the city if the cost is considered part of the park dedication fee and if the City would consider the cost of the proposed tot lot as park dedication fees which Duffy Development would then give to the city for neighborhood use. If the tot lot is not considered part of the park dedication fee, they would still build the tot lot for the private use of their residents. Discussion followed. Committee Member Uphoff made a motion to recommend waiving 25% of the Park Dedication fee for this project on the condition that Duffy Development meets the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency requirements for Federal Tax Credits. Seconded by Committee Member McDowall Seyko, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3B. PUBLIC HEARING FOR TAX ABATEMENT FOR A HOCKEY RINK

Public Works Director Goebel reviewed the information on the abatement agreement to provide assistance to help construct a hockey rink in the Big Lake Marketplace Development. The Big Lake City Council has already approved the tax abatement agreement. It still needs to go in front of Big Lake Township and the school.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Public Works Director Goebel had a request for a volleyball court in Wright's Crossing Park. Public Works Director Goebel will bring estimates for a volleyball court back to the Park Board.

Public Works Director Goebel stated that there is a lot of vandalism in the parks again this year with the Shores of Lake Mitchell Park receiving the majority of vandalism. Public Works Director Goebel will also notify the Police Department of the situation. The situation at the Skate Board Park is a little better now that there are Park Attendants at Lakeside Park.

5. STAFF UPDATE – None

6. NEW BUSINESS - None

7. ADJOURN

Committee Member Uphoff motioned to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member McDowall Seyko, unanimous ayes, motion carried.