

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

MAY 12, 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, Brad Schnitzler, Katrine Nau and City Council Liaison Patricia May. Committee Members Absent: Denise McDowall Seyko and Planning Commission Liaison Scott Marotz. Also Present: Public Works Director Michael Goebel.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member Schnitzler motioned to accept the April 14, 2008 minutes as presented. Seconded by City Council Liaison May, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3A. DISCUSS ACTIVE LIVING GRANT

The Active Living Grant that was applied for from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota in conjunction with Sherburne County and other entities was not among those selected for funding. No reasons were given in the rejection letter.

3B. CITY COUNCIL APPROVED PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT KATRINE NAU TO PARK
COMMITTEE

The Big Lake City Council approved the Parks Advisory Committee's recommendation from the April 14, 2008 meeting to appoint Katrine Nau to the Parks Advisory Committee.

3C. CITY COUNCIL APPROVED PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION IN REGARDS TO LAKE HOMES CONCEPT PLAN

The Big Lake City Council approved the Parks Advisory Committee's recommendation from the April 14, 2008 meeting to accept payment of park

dedication fee in lieu of the dedication of land for the Big Lake Homes Development in Wright Crossing Third Addition. Discussion followed regarding a pedestrian crossing of the railroad tracks, Highway 10 and County Road 43.

3D. DISCUSS LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

At the April 14, 2008 Parks Advisory Committee Meeting Planning Commission Liaison Marotz expressed interest in attending the Lake Association Meetings if the times and dates were agreeable with his schedule. Public Works Director Goebel checked with the Lake Association and they do not have a regular meeting schedule set at this time. Public Works Director Goebel will notify Planning Commission Liaison Marotz when the next Lake Association meeting is scheduled and any other interested Parks Committee Member.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Public Works Director Goebel measured Lakeridge Park and feels that a swing set will fit in the park. Committee Member Schnitzler made a motion to recommend that Public Works Director Goebel proceed with obtaining quotes for the swing set in Lakeridge Park. Seconded by City Council Liaison May, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Public Works Director Goebel applied for and received a SCORE Grant with the Lakes Association for the Storm Sewer Prevention Program in the amount of \$1,000.00. These funds will be used for stenciling of storm sewer.

A seconded grant of six recycled picnic tables and a recycling center was also received from the SCORE Grant Committee. The picnic tables will be placed in Lakeside Park. The picnic tables and recycling center total approximately \$6,000.00.

Public Works Director Goebel toured the lakes last week with a Soil and Water Conservationist and a few Lake Association Members to look at various erosion control issues of the lake. The plan was to identify these areas and do three sites along the shoreline with grant money that has already been received from Soil and Water and to proceed to write a grant for 2009. Public Works Director Goebel was informed that the grant money for 2008 and 2009 has been used up with the exception of \$50,000.00 left over that will possibly be available.

5. STAFF UPDATE – None

6. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Earney inquired about the last of the irrigation to be installed in Lakeside Park. Public Works Director informed the Committee that the irrigation is being installed now. The irrigation will run along Highway 10 to the antique shop.

There has been spring clean up in the City and along the trail systems by the Public Works Department, the Juvenile Restitution Program and the local Boy Scouts.

Chair Earney informed the committee that the Big Lake Township purchased an additional 3 acres across the bridge by the Elk River which they intend to incorporate into their park system which will make a nice connection with the City's trail system.

6A. SPECIAL GATERING FOR JUNE 3, 2008

The Caring Rivers United Way Community Forum event is scheduled on Tuesday, June 3rd from 11:00am to 1:00 pm at the Big Lake American Legion. A presentation will be provided by MN State Demographer Tom Gillaspay on upcoming demographic changes in the Big Lake area. As there may be a quorum of Council Members and other committee members in attendance it has been recommended for Council and Committees to call for a Special Gathering to ensure compliance with the Open Meeting Law requirement. Committee Member Schnitzler made a motion to call for a Special Gathering on Tuesday, June 3rd from 11:00am to 1:00 pm at the Big Lake American Legion. Seconded by Committee Member Uphoff, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Public Works Director Goebel inquired if there are any sites the Parks Advisory Committee would like to look at now that the weather is warmer. Discussion followed on the need to connect up the various trails within the City. Public Works Director Goebel will look into a trail grant.

7. ADJOURN

City Council Liaison May motioned to adjourn at 6:45p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Schnitzler, unanimous ayes, motion carried.