

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

MAY 11, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Earney opened the meeting at 6:03 p.m. Committee Members present: Chair Gene Earney, Katrine Nau and Council Liaison Dick Backlund. 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 Nau, motioned to accept the April 13, 2009 minutes as presented. Seconded by Council Liaison Backlund, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3A. UPDATE ON GREEN WORKS GRANT FOR THE MCDOWALL PARK
OAK SAVANNAH RESTORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Committee Member Nau is running into dead ends with government funding and big business funding. Committee Member Nau suggested the Parks Committee look into smaller scale local business funding and to review the projects priorities. Committee Member Nau's father, Architect Kevin Halbach will be attending the next Parks Advisory Committee Meeting. Public Works Director Goebel also met with Sherburne County Soil and Water Conservation District Representative in regards to their grants. At this time our project is not meeting their qualifications for a grant. There is one grant that may provide some trees. Discussion followed.

3B. DISCUSS VOLLEYBALL COURT IN WRIGHT CROSSING PARK

Public Works Director Goebel reviewed the different pricing scenarios for a volleyball court in Wright Crossing Park. The total installed contractor price is \$8,534.42 and the total installed price for the City Public Works is \$1,725.60. The large difference in price is the cement boarder verses treated timber boarder. Discussion followed regarding the location of the volleyball court in the park area and the tree stumps that will be encountered when excavating. Public Works Director is currently working on a Work Force Grant through the State of Minnesota. If the

grant is awarded, Public Works Director Goebel would like to delegate a crew to help with the volleyball court. Committee Member Nau made a motion to recommend the City Public Works Department install the volleyball court in Wright Crossing Park. Seconded by Committee Member Earney, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Public Works Director Goebel informed the Committee the planting of the native vegetation on the shoreline of Washington's greenway has begun. The planting on the point is almost complete. This will be a continuous process.

Big Lake and Mitchell Lake have recently been treated for Curly Leaf Pondweed and Eurasian Watermilfoil by Lake Restoration. The grant was for a total kill of the entire lakes.

Public Works Director Goebel will be placing "REWARD" signs in all the City Parks and the Skate Board Park regarding vandalism. The notice is posted on the cable channel and on the City's web-site as well.

Public Works Director Goebel is still working on the fishing pier by the carp trap. The cost of the pier is at \$31,000.00. Presently there are two companies he is working with, one from North Dakota and the other company from Wisconsin.

The rip rap project by the carp trap will be starting shortly. There was an \$8,000.00 grant received for this project. The Sentence To Serve Crew will be assisting on this project.

5. STAFF UPDATE

5A. DISCUSS THE TWO VACANT PARK BOARD POSITIONS

No additional applications for the vacant Park Board positions were received since the April meeting. The notice was not published in the paper a second time. The notice was advertised on the City's web-site, on the cable channel and posted on the bulletin board at City Hall. Public Works Director Goebel inquired if the Board wanted to advertise in the newspaper. Discussion followed. Committee Member Earney made a motion to recommend appointing Debbie Kelly and Renee Rossman to the two vacant board positions on the Parks Advisory Committee. Seconded by Committee Member Nau, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Committee Member Earney updated the Committee on the improvements in Lions Park. Discussion followed on connecting the City trail system to the Township trail system in this area and other areas in the City. Public Works Director Goebel will look into grants that are offered for connecting trail systems.

Committee Member Earney discussed the berm along Hiawatha Avenue and County Road 5. There are numerous dead trees in the berm that are not appealing. Public Works Director Goebel will look into this.

Clean up in the City was discussed in regards to lakeshore and roadways. Public Works Director Goebel stated all Adopt A Highways have been taken. Public Works Director Goebel stated that the juvenal Sentence To Serve crew have also been picking up garbage in the right of ways along the roads.

7. ADJOURN

Committee Member Nau motioned to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Earney, unanimous ayes, motion carried.