

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

DECEMBER 9, 2008

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Earney opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m. Committee Members present: Chair Gene Earney, Katrine Nau, and Council Liaison Patricia May. Also Present: Public Works Director Michael Goebel. Committee Members Absent: Vice Chair Kristi Uphoff, Brad Schnitzler, Denise McDowall Seyko and Planning Commission Liaison Scott Marotz.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Liaison May, motioned to accept the November 17, 2008 minutes as presented. Seconded by Committee Member Nau, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3A.DISCUSS GREEN WORKS GRANT (KATRINE)

Committee Member Nau has not heard back regarding the Green Works Grant. Committee Member Nau will be meeting with the DNR next week at McDowall Park regarding the planting design. The DNR will be recommending what plants and native vegetation will work best in the park and provide names of people who could do a more precise site plan for the project. The Committee Members were invited to attend the meeting with the DNR next week. Discussion followed.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Committee Member Nau informed the Committee that the DNR is offering another grant on their web-site that we could apply for. This is a general grant that could be used for any City project. Committee Member Nau will e-mail the link to Public Works Director Goebel.

Public Works Director Goebel applied for The Knife River Grant to be applied towards parks. We were notified that we did not receive the Grant.

5. STAFF UPDATE

5A. DISCUSS SHERBURNE COUNTY FORESTER POSITION

Public Works Director Goebel informed the Committee that the Sherburne County Forester Position has been eliminated. His position included involvement with the County Park Board. Those duties might be assigned to the Soil and Water Department.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6A. DISCUSS SKATING RINKS

A Planning Commissioner brought up additional skating rinks at the Annual Committee Workshop. Public Works Director Goebel stated there would be damage to the lawns at the parks if skating rinks were installed. The Public Works Department is also down one employee with City budget cuts so the additional staff hours to upkeep an additional skating rink would be difficult. Discussion followed. No action taken.

6B. DISCUSS VOLLEYBALL COURT INSTALLATION IN WRIGHTS CROSSING

The Parks Committee discussed costs to install a volleyball court in Wrights Crossing Park. This item was tabled due to lack of Committee Members present.

7. ADJOURN

Council Liaison May motioned to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Nau, unanimous ayes, motion carried.