

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 14, 2008**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Earney opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. at McDowall Park. Committee Members present: Chair Gene Earney, Katrine Nau, Denise McDowall Seyko, Planning Commission Liaison Scott Marotz and City Council Liaison Patricia May. Also Present: Public Works Director Michael Goebel. Committee Members Absent: Vice Chair Kristi Uphoff and Brad Schnitzler.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member Nau, motioned to accept the September 8, 2008 minutes as presented. Seconded by Council Liaison May, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

*(order of discussion was changed)*

6. NEW BUSINESS

6C. VISIT SITE IN MCDOWALL PARK

The Parks Advisory Committee visited the site of McDowall Park to view the area of the park project where the Green Works Grant money will be used. Committee Member Nau updated the Committee on some changes to the grant application. Changes in the application are being made based on site specific conditions, other funding opportunities, and the availability of teachers for the project. The project itself will focus on an Oak Savannah restoration project. The Oak Savannah eco system is considered an endangered system and suites our climate and correlates with other work being done county wide. Bird watching stations will also be added and information to their research. The remainder of the student piece is still similar but with more guidance. The US Fish and Wildlife Service donated \$2,500.00 for seeds and land preparation for the project. Architect Kevin Halbach has donated services for designing a shelter for the site and Sherburne County Wildlife Refuge and the Sherburne County Soil and Water Conservation District are donating services and resources towards the students and our Committee for help in creating an effective sustainable environment. Discussion followed regarding multiple phases of the

project, how accessible the park is to the entire community and the possibility of contacting homeowners that about the park to inform them of the project.

Chair Earney convened the meeting at 6:21 p.m. to locate back to City Hall for the remainder of the meeting.

Chair Earney reconvened the Park Committee Meeting at 6:36 p.m. at City Hall. At this time Mr. Nate Sparks of Northwest Associated Consultants, Inc. (NAC), joined the meeting.

### 3. OLD BUSINESS

#### 3A. COUNCIL APPROVED SEPTEMBER 8, 2008 RECOMMENDATION

No discussion.

### 4. OTHER BUSINESS

Public Works Director Goebel spoke with representatives from the Skate Hockey about a possible site for future hockey rinks. At this point there is no room available at the site they were looking at. Presently the hockey rink will remain located behind City Hall unless a different site is located. Public Works Director Goebel did note a new shelter will need to be built in the future because the existing shelter is rotting and the ideal situation would be to build it on concrete.

Pubic Works Director Goebel informed the Committee that the parks are still experiencing vandalism. There has been writing on benches and also in the asphalt on the trails. In addition there was a slide cut in Lake Ridge Park which will cost approximately \$600.00 to replace. Public Works Director Goebel has been in contact with Police Chief Rifenberick regarding the vandalism and also in possibly reinstating the reward program which has a balance of \$2,000.00.

Public Works Director Goebel stated the frame for the swings is installed in Lake Ridge Park and some of the forms for the curbing are in. Completion date should be in the next few weeks.

### 5. STAFF UPDATE – None

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

#### 6A. CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING, COMMITTEE MEETING AT RUSSELL'S AT 5:00 P.M. ON DECEMBER 2, 2008

Planning Commission Liaison Marotz made a motion to call for a special meeting, The Annual Committee Workshop, on December 2, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. at Russell's on The Lake, located at 111 Jefferson Boulevard. Seconded by Committee Member McDowall Seyko, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

6B. DISCUSS NOVEMBER 10, 2008 MEETING – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR MIKE GOEBEL WILL BE OUT OF TOWN

The next Parks Advisory Committee Meeting date is November 10, 2008 at which time Public Works Director Goebel will be out of town. Discussion followed regarding changing the meeting date or canceling the November 2008 meeting. Council Liaison May motioned to reschedule the November Parks Advisory Committee Meeting for Monday, November 17, 2008. Seconded by Committee Member Nau, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Jim Brown from Dynamics Design & Land Company LLC joined the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

6D. MARKETPLACE EAST CONCEPT PLAN

Mr. Sparks of NAC presented Marketplace East Concept Plan which is located within the Hudson Woods First Addition. The property owner, Dynamics Design & Land Company, LLC, is proposing to subdivide a portion of Outlot D into parcels zoned R-3 for high density residential, commercial and industrial development. The total land area is approximately 83 acres. Items of discussion and concerns include trail easements including the right of entry, conservation easements around trails, control over wetlands, and what safe guards can be put in place regarding long term tree preservation in the park land and along the trail corridor. Mr. Brown noted the concerns of the Park Committee.

6E. DISCUSS GRANT APPLICATION FOR MCDOWALL PARK

Committee Member Nau asked the Committee to consider the following items for discussion at upcoming meetings:

Visions for the park

Hopes for the site

What are the phases for the project

What are some other community groups that you think would get involved

One item of discussion noted was this being a community based project how does the community have access to the park because of the lack of parking. Maps, signage and field trips were discussed as an avenue to let the public know of the trail system and park.

7. ADJOURN

Committee Member McDowall Seyko motioned to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Seconded by Council Liaison May, unanimous ayes, motion carried.