

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 15, 2007**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Carlson opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Committee members present: Chair Terry Carlson, Vice Chair Eugene Earney, Brad Schnitzler, Kristi Uphoff, Denise McDowall Seyko, Planning Commission Liaison Scott Marotz and Council Liaison Patricia May. Also Present: Public Works Director Michael Goebel, Community Economic Development Director Jim Thares, Greg Schlink of Bruggeman's and Dan Sabatka of RLK Engineering.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member Schnitzler motioned to accept the September 10, 2007 minutes as presented. Seconded by Committee Member Earney, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

*(the order of discussion was changed)*

6. NEW BUSINESS

6A. PRESENTATION BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR JIM THARES

Economic Development Director Thares noted at this time the City and Township are nearing the final review and consideration of a Land Purchase Agreement with Bruggeman for 38.5 acres. Due to the City and Township asking Bruggeman to consider selling some of their land to the City and Township to pursue a second joint industrial development Bruggeman has applied to re-plat Prairie Meadows II, therefore presenting new consideration of parks in this development. Economic Development Director Thares also noted that there has been a tremendous amount of give and take on both sides in the negotiations and that BLEDA would like the process move to a point where the Purchase Agreement can be executed fairly soon and property acquired by the end of the year.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3C. PRAIRIE MEADOWS II

Discussion continued from item 6A with Mr. Schlink and Mr. Sabatka present to answer any questions. The Parks Committee reviewed the handout from Northwest Associate Consultants. The Parks Committee voiced concerns over the loss of frontage on Preusse Lake and the decreased size of Gallus Park in a previous meeting. In response to this concern Bruggeman's eliminated the proposed seven lots along Preusse Lake, which denied access and frontage for Gallus Park. In return, the applicants have proposed the elimination of Oaks Park and amenities

and added four single family lots in its place and the addition of 5 lots along Minnesota Avenue in Gallus Park. The applicants have stated that they do not view this as a gain of two single family lots because they have given up the existing dwelling site for Gallus Park, which is viewed as more valuable than one single family lot. It was noted that the placement of the single family lots in front of Gallus Park limits public view, access, and exposure of Gallus Park from Minnesota Avenue. A large area of Gallus Park would be hidden from the view, access, and exposure to the north. Discussion also continued regarding upland acreage and a monument sign. Mr. Schlink distributed a handout regarding their park calculation methods presented on August 13 2007 and their revised plans using the same methodology. Discussion followed. Committee Member Schnitzler made a motion to recommend to Council to stay with the original motion to keep Gallus Park as was originally intended in the Prairie Meadows I PUD and if anything needs to be given up, give it up in Oaks Park. Seconded by Council Liaison Patricia May, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Committee Member Schnitzler left the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

### 3A. CITY COUNCIL APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO INSTALL A SWING SET IN MITCHELL FARMS PARK

Public Works Director Goebel informed the Committee that the swing set is on order. The cost for the swing set came in at approximately \$9,000.00 versus the original quote at \$12,000.00. The installation of the swing set is expected this year. Public Works Director Goebel has heard positive feed back from residents anticipating the installation of the swing set.

### 3B. UP-DATE ON ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Public Works Director contacted Mr. Jim Hallila regarding the possible purchase of his land adjacent to the proposed Athletic Complex. Mr. Hallila is not interested in selling his land at this time.

Public Works Director Goebel contacted Mr. Jim DeChene regarding signing a first refusal right to his land that he is considering selling to the City for the proposed Athletic Complex. Mr. DeChene is willing to sign a first refusal right.

Public Works Director Goebel will have Bolton & Menk draft a rough design of the future Athletic Complex now that the Committee knows in what direction the future Athletic Complex will expand.

Committee Member Uphoff suggested viewing other communities' ball fields for ideas for our future Athletic Complex.

## 4. OTHER BUSINESS

Committee Member McDowall – Seyko inquired if the City will be installing a sidewalk / trail that will run behind the Police Station and Smile Center connecting to the existing lakeside trail diverting walking traffic away from US Highway 10 now that the building next to Zwilling's has been torn down. Public Works Director Goebel stated it is not feasible because of the wetland

area.

Committee Member Earney informed the Committee that the Big Lake Lions purchased 10 acres behind the Boeke property and gave to Big Lake Township. Big Lake Township will be developing approximately one mile of trail. The trail will be part hard surface and part wood chips. It will run partly by the river bank and then loop back around. Both entrance and exit from the trail will be through Lions Park.

The November meeting date was discussed due to City Hall will be closed on Monday, November 12, 2007 in observance of Veteran's Day. Committee Member Earney made a motion to move the November 12, 2007 meeting date to Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Planning Commission Liaison Marotz, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

5. STAFF UPDATE – None

6. NEW BUSINESS

6B. DAN LOEGERING – BASEBALL PARK UP-DATE

Dan Loegering was unable to make the meeting. He has requested to be put on the November Agenda for the Parks Advisory Committee Meeting.

7. ADJOURN

Committee Member McDowall–Seyko motioned to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Carlson, unanimous ayes, motion carried.