

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 12, 2015**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Katrine Nau opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Committee Members Present: Katrine Nau, Janae Stern, Denise McDowall Seyko, David Schreiber, Paul Winters, Renee Rossman and City Council Liaison Nick Christenson. Also Present: Public Works Director Michael Goebel, and Craig Johnson and Sam Smith from the Big Lake Lions. Those Absent: Committee Members Beverly Anderson and Planning Commission Liaison Scott Marotz.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member Winters made a motion to approve the December 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Committee Member Rossman, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

(Order of discussion was changed)

3.B DISCUSS RIVER OAKS PARK PLAN

The Special Meeting for Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at Big Lake City Hall at 6:00 p.m. to present the Master Plan on River Oaks Park for discussion at the City Council Workshop was cancelled by City Council due to unforeseen events.

Chair Nau called a Special Meeting for Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at Big Lake City Hall at 6:00 p.m. to present the Master Plan on River Oaks Park for discussion at the City Council Workshop.

3A. DISCUSS WINTERFEST DAY

Chair Nau stated she will be in contact with Big Lake Community Education as they have the dates incorrect in their brochure for Winterfest/Fishing Contest.

Chair Nau spoke with someone who is in contact with metro transit regarding promoting Winterfest. She will relay their decision to the Committee when she hears back.

Chair Nau reviewed the activities that are set for Winterfest: music, softball, fishing, sledding, bowling, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, bon-fire, fishing and snow painting.

Public Works Director Goebel stated the Sheriff's Department may not be in attendance due to events in Elk River scheduled at the same time as Winterfest.

Committee Rossman stated the weekend of February 6, 7, & 8 is “Take a Friend Snowmobiling”, so less likely to have snowmobilers available to give rides on February 7th.

Chair Nau will submit an article to the local paper regarding information on the event. Craig Johnson of the Big Lake Lions stated the Lions will be advertising the event in the local newspaper. Craig Johnson stated they are meeting every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at Lions Park till the date of the event.

Some items of discussion included the possibilities of donations and sponsorship and the need for volunteer helpers. Everyone was encouraged to get the word out.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Committee Member Rossman inquired which greenways is it ok for snowmobilers to access the lake from. Public Works Director Goebel stated there is a map of the greenways on the City’s web-site that indicate which greenways snowmobilers are allowed to access the lake from. The greenways at Crescent Street (greenway 5), Wyoming Avenue (greenway 10), Hill Street (greenway 2), and the boat landing is where snowmobilers are allowed access.

5. STAFF UPDATE

Public Works Director Goebel stated there will be a few men retiring in the Public Works Department in the near future.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6A. ELECT CHAIR POSITION

Committee Member Rossman made a motion to recommend Katrine Nau serve as Chair for a consecutive term on the Parks Advisory Committee. Seconded by Committee Member McDowall Seyko, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

6B. ELECT VICE CHAIR POSITION

Committee Member Rossman made a motion to appoint Vice Chair Janae Stern to serve as Vice Chair for a consecutive term on the Parks Advisory Committee. Seconded by Committee Member McDowall Seyko, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Chair Nau informed the Committee that she will have to leave Winterfest a little early. Discussion followed in regards to who is organizing which events for Winterfest and the locations of where the individual events will be staged.

7. ADJOURN

Committee Member Winters motioned to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Rossman, unanimous ayes, motion carried.