

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2013**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Janae Stern opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Committee Members present: Janae Stern, Denise McDowall Seyko, Eugene Earney, Renee Rossman, Planning Commission Liaison Scott Marotz and Alternate City Council Liaison Dick Backlund. Also Present: Public Works Director Michael Goebel and Megan Barthel a student of St. Cloud State University. Those Absent: Committee Member Katrine Nau and City Council Liaison Nick Christenson.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member McDowall Seyko motioned to approve the March 11, 2013 Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Planning Commission Liaison Marotz, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3A. RIVER OAKS PARK OPEN HOUSE

Vice Chair Stern shared ideas that are being worked on for the River Oaks Park Open House on Sunday, June 2, 2013 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. A special meeting could be called before the open house if needed.

3B. CITY PROPERTY BY OLD AIRPORT

Public Works Director Goebel informed the Committee that the City owned property located by the old airport was discussed at a previous City Council Workshop. Because of the new treatment process, the property will no longer be used for land application. Public Works Director Goebel has been in contact with a couple of local farmers that showed some interest in either leasing or purchasing the property. The City was also approached by the Amateur Baseball Association last year, asking the City to turn this site into a baseball facility. Another scenario which had been presented to the City was for the City to sell the property and possibly use the funds to build a ball field at a different location. After discussion the consensus of the City Council was to direct Public Works Director Goebel to proceed with leasing the 27.71 acre property.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Public Works Director informed the Committee that a grant was received from Valspar Paint Company for painting the inside/outside of the hockey rinks. Volunteers are welcome to help paint.

Megan Barthel a student of St. Cloud State University is proposing to conduct a City of Big Lake Park Survey for her class project. The project will consist of distributing a

survey to City of Big Lake residents, evaluating and reporting on the survey responses. Megan will also put together a conceptual drawing for River Oaks Park, including amenities. This project will help facilitate how the residents evaluate the present and future park and recreational system. The project will also help in the design of River Oaks Park. The survey will be distributed by internet, web, door to door, utility billing, etc. Discussion followed with regards on what should be on the survey. The consensus of the Park Board is to recommend to City Council to allow distribution of the survey.

Public Works Director Goebel informed the Board that the Mississippi River Outdoor Family Fun Day is August 10, 2013. This event has 40 outdoor activities planned and could be a source of ideas for the future.

5. STAFF UPDATE

Alternate City Council Liaison Backlund informed the Board that an applicant for the Planning Commission was chosen and the other two applicants were referred to the Park Board.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6A. PARK DEDICATION BUDGET

Public Works Director Goebel updated the Board on the Park Dedication Budget. Currently the balance in the Park Dedication is between \$80,000.00 to \$85,000.00. Discussion followed. The Park Board did not designate funds for a project at this time.

7. ADJOURN

Committee Member McDowall Seyko motioned to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Rossman, unanimous ayes, motion carried.