

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 9, 2012**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nau opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m. Committee Members present: Katrine Nau, Janae Stern, Denise McDowall Seyko, Renee Rossman, Eugene Earney, and City Council Liaison Dick Backlund. Also Present: Public Works Director Michael Goebel. Those absent: Planning Commission Liaison Scott Marotz

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member Rossman motioned to accept the March 12, 2012 Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Committee Member Stern, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3A. DISCUSS PROJECTS

Public Works Director Goebel updated the Committee regarding the sale of Shady River Campground. There were two rounds of bids submitted by the City of Big Lake towards the purchase of Shady River Campground for a City Park. The City's bid was thrown out because they considered the City an investor. We were informed if no private bids are accepted they will look at the investor's bids in a week. Discussion followed.

Committee Member Nau updated the Committee on "Get Outdoors Day" event on May 5, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Some of the activities include fishing, camping boulder wall, gardening, archery, geocaching, boat and water safety, bike safety, fitness, rain gutter regatta, derby cars, survival course, and birds and wildlife. Flyers will be distributed at Big Lake Schools and the event has and will be advertized in local avenues. Organizations that have partnered with the event include Boy Scouts, Midwest Extreme Outdoors, Jennings Decoy Company, DNR, USFWS, ECFE and other local community groups. Committee Member Nau inquired if the Park Board would like to have information available that day in regards to City Parks and the Community Garden. Discussion followed.

Tree planting will take place in McDowall Park on April 28th. Committee Member Nau will inform the Boy Scout group of the date.

Committee Member Nau inquired if the remainder of the bird houses that were built on Pollinator Day last year can be placed in McDowall Park. The Boy Scouts will be available to install the bird houses. It was agreed to place them around the prairie restoration area.

Committee Member McDowall Seyko inquired about extending the walking trail on County Road 5 to Big Lake Township Hall this year. The City of Big Lake previously wrote a DOT Grant for the path and was denied. Public Works Director Goebel will look into sending the grant in this year.

4. OTHER BUSINESS - None

5. STAFF UPDATE

Council Liaison Dick Backlund is serving on the Park Committee Board in place of Council Liaison Mike Wallen.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Council Liaison Backlund inquired if anyone has seen the exercise equipment used in Lakeside Park. No one has.

7. ADJOURN

Committee Member McDowall Seyko motioned to adjourn at 6:32 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Stern, unanimous ayes, motion carried.