



City of North St. Paul
Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes

April 27th, 2022

6:30 PM

The April 27th, 2022 Parks & Rec Commission meeting was held in the Sandberg Room of North St. Paul City Hall, 2400 Margaret Street, North St. Paul MN 55109

I. Call to Order

Chair Lloyd Grachek called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

II. Roll Call

Lloyd Grachek, Chair - present

Laura Greenlee-Karp, Vice Chair - present

Larry Amsden - present

Heather Haas –absent

Ingrid Koller - present

Sue Springborn – present

Nancy Thorsen - present

Sarah Zahradka – present

Arthur Alvarez, Jr - absent

Council Liaison: Tim Cole present

Staff: Jill Officer – present

III. Adopt Agenda

On motion to adopt the agenda by Commissioner Lloyd Grachek with noted change of meeting time from 6:00 pm to 6:30pm time, seconded by Commissioner Ingrid Koller with all present voting aye (7-0), motion carried to adopt the agenda with change.

IV. Approval of Minutes

On motion to approve the March 23rd, 2022 meeting minutes by Commissioner Sarah Zahradka, seconded by Commissioner Laura Greenlee-Karp, with all present voting aye (7-0), motion carried to approve the minutes.

V. Meeting Open to Public –

Shawn Berry from the Rotary was present for the continued discussion on the wayfinding signage at Rotary Park. Staff presented an example of the sign that could be used and pricing associated with the size and discussed what would be on the sign. Staff was going to contact Shawn later to discuss design size and timing of concrete slab.

VI. Public Hearings - None

VII. Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations

- A. Further sign discussion about the city park signs and wayfinding coordinating. Several members noted liking the sign design and it being more modern.
- B. Commissioner Grachek updated the committee on the Park Improvement Plan workshop with the Council. H updated the group on the questions the council had about the PCU pond as a park the committee was responsible for or the city. Also, the Urban Ecology Center and the potential to use that for a natural play area or bench/table. Commissioner Zahradka pointed out potential improvements and ideas. Council Member Cole requested more information on the designation and more information on who would take care of improvements.
- C. Commissioner Grachek reviewed the maintenance being part of our estimates. There was discussion about where the money comes from for maintenance and various ways this can be covered.
- D. Council Member Cole offered appreciation for the work the commission put into the plan. He suggested considering multi use for spaces, questioned ball field usage. The group talked of soccer fields, and other uses. Commissioner Greenlee-Karp pointed out looking at the surrounding cities for programs to not compete with. Greenlee-Karp was going to look at data to see what activities are up and coming. Group is interested in utilizing demographic information from WSB. Commissioner Koller points out that what we put in should support existing residents but also thinks about the future residents.
- E. Discussion of McKnight fields and baseball field usage discussion.
- F. Commissioner Zahradka expanded on the ideas of the fall event, making it more of an art and craft fair. Possibly charge a fee to vendors for a fundraising event to replace the Splash. She is working with the Art and Culture Commission to coordinate.
- G. Question on the message board guidelines –staff to research rules.



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VIII. **Reports from Staff**

Jill will send Boy Scout information to Commissioner Greenlee-Karp to create a checklist.
Demonstration of website where items are advertised.

IX. **Reports from Commissioners & Park Liaisons**

Commissioner Greenlee-Karp has reserved the food truck vendors for Food Truck Night.

Park Clean up –update on reschedules and groups that went out to Casey and Gateway trail

Councilmember Cole spoke about the EDA possibly creating parks downtown where buildings are taken down.

Cut down trees falling at north end of Southwood, Cathy and Commissioner Grachek corresponding to see what should go in to replace these.

X. **Adjournment**

On motion by Commissioner Nancy Thorsen, seconded by Commissioner Sue Springborn with all present voting aye (7-0), motion carried to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM

Next Park and Recreation Meeting is scheduled for May 25th, 2022 at City Hall in the Sandberg Room; 2400 Margaret St, North St Paul, MN 55109