

**City of Isanti
Park & Recreation Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2012
Isanti City Hall**

A. Call To Order

Bone called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Park Board rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call

Members Present: Clell Bone, Kimberly Horst, Mayor George Wimmer, Aaron Zdon and Student Representative Chloe Sunde.

Members Absent: Jennifer Garvey (gave prior notice).

Staff Present: Lisa Wilson, Planning and Parks Director, AICP.

D. Agenda Modifications

Bone questioned if there were any modifications to the Agenda.

Wilson stated that there were none.

E. Approval of Minutes from April 24, 2012 Park and Recreation Board Meeting

Motion by Zdon, second by Horst to approve the April 24, 2012 Park and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes. Motion was unanimously approved.

F. County Road 5 Sidewalk Construction

Wimmer stated that Stephanie Kunzia will be unable to attend, as she had a family emergency. Wimmer stated that Mrs. Kunzia is a resident of the community and she is working on her Master's Degree in Nursing. Wimmer stated that she wanted to become involved with the sidewalk project along County Road 5. Wimmer stated it has been discussed many times, the obstacles that the City faces along the corridor. Wimmer stated that besides cost, there is limited ROW available; and in areas near the mini mall (Charisma Boutique, Subway, etc.), there appears to be no ROW. Wimmer stated that if they can get the property owner to give up a portion of their drainage area in front of the center, we may be able to explore adding a sidewalk segment. Wimmer stated as he was thinking this through, the City would need to first look at the area and ensure the property owner that they were not going to lose parking spaces. Wimmer stated that Mrs. Kunzia is taking up this issue on behalf of the community.

Wimmer stated that a study of this area would cost some money, particularly engineering fees, to take a look at these areas. Wimmer stated that it will not be cheap; but the City would need to get an estimate from the City Engineer for this type of study. Wimmer stated that they are looking for a recommendation from the Park Board, which would carry forward to the City Council, to obtain a cost estimate from the City Engineer for this type of review. Wimmer stated that once the review is complete, the City would have something tangible that could be taken to the property owner for the discussion.

Zdon stated that the trade-off is that they will have more foot traffic through this area.

Wimmer stated that if the City can prove that they will not have to give up anything, then maybe we can get the property owner on board. Wimmer stated that the City needs to have sidewalk on either side of the street

in order to have a crosswalk through this area. Wimmer stated that the County will not allow a crosswalk unless there is an area to cross to on the other side of the street.

Wimmer stated that the end goal would be to have a flashing sign along with the crosswalk between the sidewalk segments. Wimmer stated that there are residents in this area that attempt to make walking trips, but there is no safe area in which for them to cross. Wimmer stated that this has been a priority for the City, but the City has no ROW.

Motion by Zdon, second by Horst to get an estimate from the City Engineer to review these areas in an effort to move forward with the project. Motion was unanimously approved.

G. Whisper Ridge Park – Public Outreach Options

Wilson outlined the information within the staff memo. Wilson provided comments that had been provided by Mrs. Garvey regarding this item. Wilson stated that Mrs. Garvey thought a survey would be nice and would be an inexpensive first attempt at gaining some feedback from the residents. Wilson stated that Mrs. Garvey also thought an on-site type of meeting would also be a great option. Wilson stated that she was looking for comments and direction from the Park Board regarding this item.

Wimmer stated that the City could send out a dual purpose item, such as a survey and a meeting notice. Wimmer questioned if a 5 p.m. meeting would be okay or if we would need to look a bit later.

Zdon stated that he thought 6 or 7 p.m. would work better.

Wimmer questioned the Park Board members.

Zdon questioned if it would be an on-line survey.

Wimmer stated that he was thinking more a paper survey that they could return to the City or could bring with them to the meeting. Wimmer stated that he was thinking that the mailing would serve a dual purpose. Wimmer stated that this would save some costs. Wimmer stated that they need to schedule a meeting. Wimmer questioned if the group wanted to hold a meeting as an extension of a Park Board meeting, during a Park Board meeting, or hold a separate meeting. Wimmer stated that these questions need to be answered.

Bone stated that at a Park Board meeting, the Board may run out of time. Bone stated that he thought it should be scheduled for a different night.

Wimmer stated that Tuesdays are meeting nights for the City.

Zdon stated that Wednesday evenings is for church.

Wimmer stated that the Park Board could move their meeting time to 5:30 p.m. and then hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m. Wimmer questioned the schedule.

Wilson stated that should work.

Bone stated that we do not know who is interested, so forming a community group at this time, is not an option. Bone stated that the feedback at an open meeting would be beneficial.

Wilson questioned if the meeting would be at City Hall.

Wimmer stated that it would be held on-site in Whisper Ridge Park. Wimmer stated that the group could do everything there that evening.

Zdon questioned if the item needs to go to Council.

Wimmer stated that the Council would need to approve. Wimmer stated that Mrs. Wilson and he could work on a survey and public notice of the meeting. Wimmer stated that Mrs. Wilson could report back to each of the members, if the Council approves.

Wilson questioned if the group was thinking for the June meeting.

Wimmer and Zdon stated yes.

Zdon stated that they should recommend a radius. Zdon stated that a ½ mile, but nothing west of the tracks.

Horst agreed that an area needs to be defined.

Zdon questioned if the City's computer system determined who gets a letter.

Wilson stated that the City has access to the County's system; and is able to get a buffer area with addresses and property owner information. Wilson stated that the ¼ mile radius would be easier to remove those addresses that are on the west side of the tracks. Wilson stated that the ½ radius adds a substantial number of addresses.

Wimmer stated that there would be notice provided on the website and in the paper. Wimmer stated that he would convince both papers to put in a blurb about the meeting. Wimmer stated that others would be welcome to attend, but the ½ mile radius is too big.

Motion by Wimmer, second by Zdon to recommend that a ¼ mile radius be used, that the information be provided on the City website, and that a survey be mailed with the meeting notice; and to move the Park and Recreation Board meeting on June 26th to 5:30 p.m. at Whisper Ridge Park. Motion was unanimously approved.

H. 2012 Mayor's Great Yard Award Information

Bone stated that the Park Board would be involved with the Mayor's Great Yard Award again this year. Bone questioned if everyone on the Board was aware of the program.

Wimmer stated that everyone should be aware.

Zdon questioned if the first round will be at the June meeting.

Wimmer stated yes.

I. Park Tour Updates

Wilson presented the updates from the park tour. Wilson stated that the Board members had questioned how often the toilet in Bluebird Park was cleaned. Wilson stated that the toilets are serviced once a week, on Tuesday. Wilson stated that the City just entered into a new contract with Jimmies Johnnies in March of this year, so if the frequency was increased for any or all of the facilities, the City would need to re-negotiate that contract.

Bone stated that an increase in service calls would result in increased cost to the City.

Wilson stated that is correct.

Horst stated that something needed to be done because the toilet in Bluebird Park gets quite gross due to all the use.

Motion by Wimmer, second by Zdon to send the item to Finance Committee for discussion regarding the increase in service calls for the portable toilets. Motion was unanimously approved.

J. Other Updates

Wilson presented the other park related updates.

Bone questioned if anyone had anything additional.

Wilson stated that she did not have anything to add.

K. Adjournment

Motion by Zdon, second by Horst to adjourn the May 22, 2012 Park and Recreation Board meeting. Motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting ended at 5:18 p.m.

Dated at Isanti, Minnesota this 26th day of June 2012.

Respectively submitted,

Lisa M. Wilson, AICP
Planning and Parks Director