

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
July 8, 2008**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tony Churchill, Chad Vosejka, Chris Kraimer, and Laura Carpentier

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kevin Kodada

STAFF PRESENT:

City Planner Benjamin Baker and City Engineer Kevin Kawlewski

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairperson Kraimer called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

2. AGENDA

Kraimer asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Baker asked if discussion of a future warming house at Jaycee Park could be added as Item 7(d).

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Churchill to approve the agenda with the noted addition. Vote for: Churchill, Vosejka, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

3. MINUTES

A motion was made by Churchill and seconded by Kraimer to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2008 regular meeting. Vote for: Churchill, Vosejka, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. PUBLIC HEARING

None

6. OLD BUSINESS

None

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discuss CSAH 33 Trail Connection

City Engineer Kawlewski stated that the City's DNR grant applications for the CSAH 33 trail connection project were not approved. Kawlewski said he was looking for direction from the Park Board. He presented the Board with two

different trail alignment options. He explained that the most significant construction issue is the presence of peat underneath the entire length of the trail. He said that the trail could be constructed over fabric with light weight aggregate backfill or a shredded tire crumb base. He said the weight of the trail will eventually cause settling over time. Kawlewski said that a settling trail will require frequent maintenance to the surface. He said that due to the soil conditions in the area and wetland impacts the costs of the project will increase. He said the original cost of the project was projected at \$65,000. Kawlewski provided a new project cost estimate totaling \$116,880. Churchill asked if they should consider a boardwalk. He said that a boardwalk connection would have little to no wetland impacts. Kraimer asked about the cost of a boardwalk trail. Kawlewski said that the boardwalk option may be more expensive but WSB Engineers could check to see if it is a viable option. The Board agreed that a boardwalk trail would be aesthetically pleasing and fairly low maintenance. Carpentier mentioned that cars fly by so fast along CSAH 33, and she suggested that the any trail alignment be setback away from the highway.

A motion was made by Kraimer and seconded by Churchill to recommend that WSB research the feasibility of a boardwalk trail connect along CSAH 33. Vote for: Churchill, Vosejpka, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

b. Discuss Solutions for Adults Playing Softball on the Little League Field at Trenda Memorial Park

Baker mentioned that the City had received two complaints recently regarding adult softball being played on the Trenda Memorial Park Little League Field (northern field near Rayann Acres). He said that both of the complaints came from homeowners living along Cottonwood Street NE. He said their main concern was softballs flying into their yards. Baker asked the Board if they could recommend a solution to the issue. The Board discussed placing a sign on the backstop designating the little league field as a youth field. Churchill said that liability should fall on the adult softball players if something is damaged just like in golf.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Churchill to approve the placement of a sign stating “designed for youth baseball/softball” on the backstop at Trenda Memorial and Singing Hills Park. Vote for: Churchill, Vosejpka, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

c. Discuss Trenda Memorial Park Tennis Courts

Baker stated that the City recently received a complaint regarding the tennis court at Trenda Memorial Park. He said that the concerned citizen would like to know if any court maintenance will be performed this year. Baker said that according to the recently approved improvement plan and priority ranking spreadsheet, tennis courts were ranked as a low priority and not listed on the 5 or 10 Year Improvement Plan. He asked the Park Board if it was still their intention not to

improve the current tennis court. The Board stated they would like to explore other places for future tennis courts. Carpentier stated that she would love to have a nice place to play tennis in town. The Board stated that the current court runs east-west and any future courts should be laid out in a north-south direction. Churchill stated that cracks in the pavement may hold the City liable for any incidents. Kawlewski stated that a thin pavement layer could possibly be added over the top of the current surface.

No action was taken on the issue.

d. Discuss Warming House at Jaycee Park

Kristen Glockner of the Lonsdale Jaycees stated that their organization has raised approximately \$2,500 towards a new warming house at Jaycee Park. She shared with the Board the recent difficulties the Jaycees have experienced with fundraising. She mentioned that they recently lost their main source of raising money, pull-tab gambling at a local establishment. She said they are looking for a new place to run the pull-tabs. Glockner said that 2 years ago they received a \$13,200 quote for a 12' x 12' cinderblock building with a hip roof. The Board asked if the Jaycees had a timeline they were shooting for. Glockner said that they are trying to raise the money but it may be another couple of years before the funds are raised. Kraimer thanked Glockner for her efforts, and she encouraged the Jaycees to keep raising money.

Baker reminded the Board that a future official sized hockey rink will probably be located somewhere other than Jaycee Park. He mentioned that the Board reviewed making improvements to the current rink this past Winter. He said the Board talked about improving the boards, lights, and paving the rink's surface so that it could be utilized in the summer months too. He said the Board decided not to make any improvements to the rink because of the rink size and inability to expand in the future. He said the Board envisioned the Jaycee Park ice rink being used by free skaters and pick up hockey games in the future. Vosejpka suggested that an indoor hockey rink would be the best route to take due to the limited amount of good outdoor ice during the winter. Baker said he would contact the local hockey associations to see if they were still pursuing an indoor ice rink in the area.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Vosejpka to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Churchill, Vosejpka, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner