

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
February 8, 2011**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeanette Utecht, Micki Ziskovsky, Kevin Kodada, Laura Carpentier, and Shelly Narum

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

City Planner Benjamin Baker and Parks Maintenance Worker Jeff Heller

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kodada called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

2. AGENDA

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Utecht to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

3. MINUTES

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2011 regular meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. PUBLIC HEARING

None

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Discuss Lonsdale Tree Nursery Phase III – Rice Soil & Water 2011 Tree Order Form

Baker presented the Board with the requested material from the previous meeting, including a list of the 50 extra trees planted by Jeff Heller along with a site plan survey and aerial photo of the proposed water treatment facility and existing tree nursery. He went through the list of all the trees that have been planted in the tree nursery, and he asked the Board to discuss what trees should be ordered for 2011.

Kodada and Heller talked about adding a water spigot to the rear of the new water treatment building or somehow storing and utilizing the facility's backwash to easily water the trees in the nursery (located directly behind the proposed water treatment building). The rest of the Board members agreed with the idea.

Carpentier brought a detailed tree book for the Board to look at while deciding on which trees to order for 2011. After much discussion, the Board members decided to order the following small trees from the Rice Soil & Water Conservation District:

- 25 - Norway Pine trees (\$30)
- 25 - Red Splendor Crabapple (\$30)
- 25 - American Cranberrybush (\$30)

The Board also asked City staff to look into ordering 25 - 50 "Common White Lilacs". The Board members stated that some of the trees could get planted directly at one of the parks or open space areas if room becomes limited at the tree nursery.

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve the 2011 Rice Soil & Water Conservation District order of 75 small trees in the amount of \$90.00. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

Baker noted that MnDOT's Dan Gullickson is scheduled to attend next month's meeting to discuss Phase II of the MnDOT-Lonsdale Joint Roadside Landscaping Partnership Program.

Kodada left the meeting due to prior obligations. Utecht took over as Chairperson.

b. Discuss Trail System Planning

The Board was presented with four aerial photos to review showing possible future trail connections, including a Central Street trail connection (from Casey's General Store - Generation Home & Building Center); a Main Street North trail connection (from Downtown - Trena Memorial Park); a Central Street trail connection (from Generation Home & Building Center - 8th Avenue NE); and a Hwy 19 Trail Connection (from 8th Avenue NE - 15th Avenue SE). After reviewing each of the future trail connection possibilities, each of the Board members provided comments and recommended prioritizing the trails in the following order:

1. Central Street trail connection (from Casey's General Store - Generation Home & Building Center)
2. Baldwin Street trail connection (from Casey's General Store - Rolling Ridge Market Place)

3. Main Street North trail connection (from Downtown - Trendera Memorial Park)
4. Hwy 19 trail connection (from Generation Home & Building Center – 15th Avenue SE)

Heller noted that the WELCO trail is currently closed due to a failing retaining wall along the hillside of 4th Avenue SE, and he said that it may not reopen for awhile. He also questioned whether a guard rail would be needed along Hwy 19, similar to the required guard rail for the Co Rd 33 trail. Narum asked if a trail could be constructed in-between the stormwater ponds behind the twinhomes along Ash Street NE. Heller stated that the Public Works Department uses that path for pond maintenance. Narum stated that the Trendera Memorial Park trail slope needs to be more gradual. Carpentier noted that kids living in Willow Creek Heights would utilize a trail connection leading to the downtown area by Casey's General Store. Baker noted that he would create an updated future trails map based on the Board's priority ranking and comments.

- c. 2011 Park & Recreation Commission Goal Setting (Priority & Project Planning)
Baker presented the Board with a spreadsheet listing recently completed projects, proposed large scale projects (over \$5,000.00), and large scale trail projects (over \$25,000.00). The spreadsheet also showed the estimated cost of each project and potential funding sources. The Board agreed that a skate park surface should be the highest priority in 2011, along with sand volleyball courts. The Board discussed whether or not the entire hockey rink should be paved all at once, whether or not obstacles should be included with the project, and how much private money should be raised before the City goes ahead with the skate park project. They also discussed different ideas for moving the compost site away from Sticha Park so that volleyball courts can be installed. The Board was provided with a letter from R & L Woodcraft, in opposition to a compost site location along Industrial Park Drive SE. Utecht asked the Board members to come prepared to the next meeting by thinking of a few different locations/ideas for relocating the compost site.

The Board agreed that improvements to the tennis courts should be made at Trendera Memorial Park. They also stated that they would like to plant some larger trees again this year. Narum suggested that the Board start planning for a splash pad. She also asked if the City should be involved in hosting a community garden somewhere in town. Heller mentioned that the Public Works Department could make some more cedar screening fences for around the porta-potties in the parks. He said that the cost for a cedar screen is about \$400-\$500. Carpentier mentioned that the Trendera Memorial Park and Jaycee Park signs should be relocated to a better spot and dressed up with landscaping. Ziskovsky said that small play items or sandboxes would improve some of the parks. Carpentier stated that another category should be added to the spreadsheet for small scale projects. Utecht asked the Park Board members to think of a couple small-scale projects to discuss at the next meeting.

d. Consider Approval of a Quote Submitted by Midwest Playscapes for Engineered Wood Fiber (For Playground Surface)

The Board was presented with a cost estimate from Midwest Playscapes for engineered wood fiber chips for the play surfaces around the playground equipment. Heller mentioned that the presented quote was just a cost estimate for planning purposes, and he stated that he would obtain a new quote for the next Park Board meeting.

The Park Board members stated that they would discuss the issue again once a finalized quote was obtained. No action was taken on the issue.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

Baker provided the Board with a map of the Kalina Park Reserve that he intends to send to the four property owners at the south end of Pond View Drive SE. He presented the Board with a proposed map of the Lonsdale Telephone plans to improve the wetland located southeast of the Industrial Drive and Hwy 19 intersection. The Board was also provided with the Rice County Parks & Recreation Survey.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ziskovsky and seconded by Narum to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner