

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
January 12, 2010**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jeanette Morgan, 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 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

**2. AGENDA**

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Morgan to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

**3. MINUTES**

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2009 regular meeting. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**5. PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

a. Update on the City Council Annual Meeting – Park & Recreation Advisory Commission Appointments

Kodada stated that the Lonsdale City Council at their January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting approved Resolution 2010-11, appointing himself as the Council Representative to the Park Board and Shelly Narum to a 4-year term on the Park Board. Baker provided the Board with City Code Section 30.01, Parks & Recreation, and an updated Park Board roster, showing names and terms.

b. Introduction of Shelly Narum

Kodada welcomed the newest member of the Park Board, Shelly Narum. He briefly introduced her to the Board, and the Board congratulated her and welcomed her to the group. Kodada mentioned that Narum expressed interest in planning for a splash pad during her interview.

c. Park & Recreation Advisory Commission Officer Election

Baker said that the Park Board shall elect a chairperson from among its appointed members for a term of one year. He also mentioned that the Board may create and fill other offices as needed. Baker asked the Board to elect a Chair and Vice Chair and he suggested the following positions: Arbor Day Event Planner, Director of Horticulture & Landscape Design, Jaycee Park Ice Rink & Skate Park Controller, and Water Recreation Planner.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve Kodada as the Park & Recreation Advisory Commission Chairperson. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Morgan and seconded by Carpentier to approve Morgan as the Park & Recreation Advisory Commission Vice Chairperson. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ziskovsky and seconded by Morgan to approve the following officer positions:

- Mary (Micki) Ziskovsky, Arbor Day Event Planner
- Laura Carpentier, Director of Horticulture & Landscape Design
- Jeanette Morgan, Jaycee Park Ice Rink & Skate Park Controller
- Shelly Narum, Water Recreation Planner

Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

d. Rice County Soil & Water Tree Order (Phase II – Lonsdale Tree Nursery)

Baker stated that last year the Park Board initiated a tree nursery on City property along Idaho Street SW. He said Phase 1 of the tree nursery included the planting of 25 Black Hills Spruce and 25 Sugar Maple. He provided the Board with the 2010 Rice Soil & Water Conservation District Tree Order Form to review. Carpentier and Heller both stated that Phase 1 has been a good investment for the money spent. Carpentier stated that mulch should have been added around the trees, but she mentioned that snow acts as a good insulator too. Kodada suggested that the Board orders something different this year. The Board looked at the list of trees and shrubs and discussed the pros and cons of the different species. The Board agreed to order 25 River Birch trees and 50 Purple Lilac shrubs. Kodada said that the City could use his auger again for planting.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to order 25 River Birch trees and 50 Purple Lilac shrubs from the Rice Soil & Water Conservation District. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

e. 2010 Tree Planting Plan Discussion

Baker mentioned that the Park Development Fund currently has money budgeted for approximately 10 trees at \$200 each. He said that at previous meetings, Park Board members discussed that the trees could be located next to the new trail benches, placed along Railway Street, planted within Sticha Park, or planted within Trendera Memorial Park. He provided the Board with aerial photos of Sticha Park, Trendera Memorial park, and Jaycee Park. Baker mentioned that the Board previously stated that they should focus on one area or park. He also mentioned that removing and replacing the Cottonwood trees near the DRS Field could create controversy in a tough budget year. Kodada agreed, and he suggested that the trees be planted in Sticha Park. Carpentier stated that the broken evergreen tree located near the play equipment at Trendera Memorial Park be replaced sometime this year. Ziskovsky stated that trees or shrubs could be placed around the perimeter of the Sticha Park Ballfield. The Board also talked about adding shade trees near the bleachers and team benches. They discussed strategically locating shade trees to for the future volleyball courts and play equipment too. Kodada explained that the existing compost site will be moved some day and that will make room for the future park amenities. Carpentier stated that she would create a tree planting plan for Sticha Park once she obtained a scaled map from WSB Engineers.

f. Archery Range Discussion

Baker provided the Board with pictures of Mankato's archery range and an aerial photo of the potential archery range site. Kodada mentioned that he recently talked with On-Site Marketing, property owners of the potential archery range site, and they expressed some interest in donating land to the City. Kodada said that he would get back to the interested sportsman club once the land owners make a commitment to dedicating their land. The Board talked about parking, signage, fencing, and platforms.

g. Community Roadside Landscaping Program Update

Baker said that City staff sent an initiation letter to MN/DOT's District 6 Engineer Nelrae Succio on December 3, 2009, and he just received confirmation from Succio that the letter had been received and that Environmental Coordinator Nathan Gregor would be contacting the City soon to set up some meeting dates. The Board asked staff to see if MN/DOT funded similar projects in the area. Baker said that City staff did ask Steele Waseca to see if they would be interested in donating electric lighting for the eastern sign.

h. Jaycee Park Warming House Issues

Morgan stated that during a recent visit to the Jaycee Park Ice Rink, she encountered some issues that may need addressing. She said that there was garbage left in the warming house, dirty footprints were up the wall, the light sensor was broken, and there wasn't a garbage can or dumpster around. She also mentioned that other skaters were stating that the ice quality was poor. Heller said that the Public Works Department would resolve the issues. Heller mentioned that he would ask Chris Micheals to resurface the ice. He said that the ideal freezing temperature for smooth ice is around 10 degrees. The Park Board discussed adding a security system and signage to the warming house.

i. 2010 Goal Setting & Planning

Baker asked the Board to think about goals, ideas, and plans for the upcoming year relating to parks, trails, recreation, and open space, and to come prepared to the February meeting to discuss their thoughts.

j. Jaycee Park Skate Park Discussion

Baker said that he emailed both the New Prague and Montgomery-Lonsdale School Superintendents, asking them to announce the dates/times of the January and February Park Board meeting, to give students an opportunity to voice their support and comments related to the skate park to the Board. He also said that the Lonsdale Area News Review announced the January meeting in a recent article about the skate park. Although no one showed up for the meeting, the Park Board said that the project surfacing project would still move forward, and they discussed different ways to reach out to the youth in community to get them involved in the planning and fundraising process. The Board said that they would continue skate park discussions at their February meeting.

**7. MISCELLANEOUS**

Baker mentioned that 9 out of the 15 recently installed benches have been adopted so far through the Park Board's successful Adopt-a-Bench program.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Morgan to adjourn the meeting.

Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None.

Vote 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Benjamin Baker, City Planner