

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
March 30, 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 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

2. AGENDA

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

3. MINUTES

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Morgan to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2010 regular meeting. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

- a. Update on the MnDOT Community Roadside Landscaping Program Meeting
Carpentier provided an update on the MnDOT Community Roadside Landscaping Program. She mentioned that the Landscaping Committee met earlier in the evening for the first time to discuss the basic structure of the program. She said that they are planning on a Fall planting. She mentioned that the City will be responsible for site preparation and recruiting volunteers to plant and maintain the landscaping and MnDOT will help provide technical assistance and funding for the landscaping materials and rental costs. She stated that MnDOT will be creating a base map over the next month for distribution to the committee members. She mentioned that the committee will be bringing back their plant and

landscaping design ideas back to the next meeting. Ziskovsky asked if the City could start bringing compost to the welcome sign sites. Carpentier said that the City should wait until the MnDOT soil test results come back to know exactly what is needed. Kodada thanked all the committee members who attended the earlier meeting. He also directed City staff to have a cooperative agreement ready for approval in June because of the six week MnDOT approval process.

b. Update on Minnesota Shade Tree Short Course Conference

Heller and Carpentier provided a brief update on the Shade Tree Short Course Conference that they attended earlier in the month. Heller provided a handout to the Board on the benefits of planting urban street trees. Kodada asked about tree treatments for Ash trees. Heller and Carpentier suggested that the City should conduct a tree inventory.

c. Update on Tree City USA Status and Arbor Day 2010 Event Planning

Baker stated that he recently found out that the City of Lonsdale now held the status of Tree City USA. Narum asked what makes a city a Tree City USA. Baker explained the four requirements it takes to become a Tree City USA.

Baker said that Ziskovsky and himself started planning for a small Arbor Day event in April or May. He said that they have talked about working with the DNR again to provide trees to students at East Elementary School. He said that more details will be provided at the April Park Board meeting.

d. Discuss Planning for RSWCD Trees to Arrive on Friday, April 16, 2010

Baker announced that Lonsdale's 75 trees/bushes will be arriving on Friday, April 16th at 7:00 am. Some of the Board members stated that they could help with planting on the morning of the 16th. Heller said that he would also check on the availability of Sentence-to-Serve to help with the planting. He mentioned that ground tilling would not be necessary this year because the holes could be pre-dug with an auger. The Board agreed to schedule the morning of April 16th as the official planting day for the RSWCD trees.

e. Consider Approval of the April-May-June 2010 Green Team

Baker provided the Park Board with the three Green Team applications on file. The Board discussed the applicants, and they agreed that Montgomery-Lonsdale Early Childhood Coalition should be the next Green Team because they were the only applicant to not have participated in the program yet.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Morgan to recommend approval of Montgomery-Lonsdale as the April-May-June 2010 Green Team. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

f. Review 2010 City Park Tree Quotes

Baker provided the Park Board with tree quotes from Bachmans, Knechts, and Trcka Tree Moving & Sales. He mentioned that the quotes were based on a bid sheet that was provided to each tree nursery specifying tree type and size. He said that most of the tree sizes are comparable but each quote may list a little different size or type. He also mentioned that Knecht's quote stated that they will at no charge provide and plant 3 Autumn Blaze Maples (2.5" caliper size) in a City Park.

The Park Board went through and discussed each quote listed on the comparison spreadsheet. Heller stated that he did receive a quote for a bobcat tree spade attachment for \$680 because at some point the City will need tree moving equipment. Both Heller and Carpentier stated that they were not that impressed with the trees that Trcka provided last year. Ziskovsky stated that she liked Knecht's best value quote. All the Park Board members agreed.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Morgan to recommend approval of the best value quote from Knecht's Nursery and Landscaping in the amount of \$2,280.00 for 12 park trees and 3 free trees. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

The Board decided to discuss a planting location for the three Red Maple trees at their April meeting.

- g. Montgomery-Lonsdale 2010 Summer Recreation Update – Kathy Peterson
Montgomery-Lonsdale Community Education Director Kathy Peterson provided the Park Board with a copy of the new 2010 Summer Recreation catalog and a list of associated expenses that Lonsdale helped fund. She reviewed the upcoming summer programs with the Board, and she reminded the City that the community needs to try to keep programs affordable so that all families and kids can participate. Ziskovsky asked if Peterson could bring back a more detailed account of participation numbers and expenses for the next time she visits. Kodada thanked Peterson for the update on community programming.
- h. Adopt-a-Bench Name Plate Color Selection
Baker asked the Board what color they wanted the Adopt-a-Bench name plates to be. Kodada suggested black lettering with a tan background. The Park Board members agreed. Kodada asked if they could see an example before they ordered all nine name plates.

Baker said that he recently received a call about the distant location of Bench # 2 from the person that adopted the bench. Baker stated that Bench # 2 was placed underneath the large trees to be a relaxing and shady spot to rest. He asked the Board if the bench should be relocated closer to the trail or if a woodchip trail extension should be explored. Kodada asked the Board members to take a look at the bench and bring their ideas back to the next meeting.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

Kodada asked City staff to contact MnDOT to see if they could dump a few loads of millings off at the future Harmony Meadows archery range location for use as a parking lot base. He said that MnDOT may have some extra millings available when they come through this summer to mill and overlay Hwy 19.

Kodada also mentioned that the roof and steps at DRS Field are currently being reconstructed to get ready for the Lonsdale Aces game on April 7th.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ziskovsky and seconded by Narum to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner