

MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
May 12, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeanette Morgan, Micki Ziskovsky, Kevin Kodada, and Laura Carpentier

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chris Kraimer

STAFF PRESENT:

City Planner Benjamin Baker, Parks Maintenance Worker Jeff Heller, and City Engineer Kevin Kawlewski

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

Kodada asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Baker asked if "DRS Field Concrete Platform Viewing Area Project" could be added to the agenda. Micki Ziskovsky asked if "Baldwin Street Picnic Tables" could be added to the agenda.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Morgan to approve the agenda with the noted additions. 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 April 14, 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. OLD BUSINESS

a. DRS Field Concrete Platform Viewing Area Project

Baker provided pictures of the landscaped area between the first baseline fence and the concession stand area at Trena Memorial Park's DRS Field. Bob Brezina, Lonsdale Aces Ball Club Representative, stated that the club is looking

at taking out the rotten landscaping timbers, overgrown shrubs, along with the decorative rock and installing a concrete platform viewing area instead. He described the project in detail, and said that the project will probably cost between \$10,000 - \$15,000. He said that if the project goes ahead, spectators will be able to sit on the platform with lawn chairs or wheel chairs to view the game. He said that the rocks have become a safety issue with kids throwing them around. Brezina said that the club would like to complete the project within the next 6 weeks, and he asked if the City would be interested in paying for half of the project cost. Kodada explained that the project would require footings around the entire area. Carpentier said that the Park Board's funds are mostly allocated already, and she said they would need to review the budget numbers first. Kodada said that the City would provide the ball club with a decision within the next couple weeks.

No action was taken.

b. Discuss Hwy 19 Sidewalk Project – Crosswalk & Pedestrian Ramp Designs

Baker provided intersection design pictures for the Board to review in regards to the Hwy 19 and Main Street intersection. Kawlewski asked for guidance from the Board, and he explained that pavers are not recommended by MnDOT because of maintenance issues. He said the City may want to construct concrete crosswalks or an entire concrete intersection and add designs by stamping. In regards to one of the picture designs, Carpentier stated that the word "Lonsdale" inscribed into the crosswalk was unattractive. Kodada commented that he was concerned with maintenance issues that end up occurring when concrete material is bumped up to asphalt. Baker suggested that a compass rose symbol may be appropriate at the intersection due to the fact that it's the center point for all addressing and street names. The Board discussed bump out options, bollards, monuments, and medians. Kawlewski reminded the Board that any additional work, over and above the mill and overlay, would be done at the expense of the City. After discussing existing limitations, costs, maintenance concerns, and future infrastructure improvements, the Board decided to not to pursue pavers or stamped concrete at this time.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Morgan to recommend a standard intersection and crosswalk at Hwy 19 and Main Street. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

Carpentier exited the meeting for another appointment.

c. Review Draft Tree Ordinance

Baker reminded the Board that two of the requirements to becoming a Tree City USA, includes the establishment of a "Tree Board" and a "Tree Care Ordinance". Baker provided the Board with updated draft tree ordinance language. He said that the DNR reviewed the ordinance and provided comments and suggestions.

Baker read through the ordinance and noted that the City attorney will need to review the private property enforcement section. He also said that the Tree Preservation section of the City Code should be mentioned in the tree ordinance. Ziskovsky asked what happens to residents who have some of the listed prohibited trees planted in their yard. Kodada explained that the trees would be grandfathered in and allowed to stay.

A motion was made by Ziskovsky and seconded by Morgan to schedule a public hearing for the June 9, 2009 Park & Recreation Board meeting to review the proposed tree ordinance. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, and Kodada; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. DRS Field Concrete Platform Viewing Area Project
(This agenda item was talked discussed under “Old Business”)
- b. Downtown Flower Pots Update
Baker provided a map of downtown Lonsdale showing where the 16 large flower pots are located. He said that all 16 pots were adopted by neighboring business/property owners. He mentioned that City Hall will also adopt a pot this year. Baker said that the Jaycees will start planting flowers in the pots on May 13th at 5:30pm.
- c. Arbor Day 2009 and Nature Center Grand Opening Event Review
Kodada said that the Arbor Day event was the first time the whole Board has ever made it to an event outside of a meeting together, and he said that it was absolutely terrific that Lonsdale was represented as well as it was. He congratulated the Board on an excellent job planning the event, and he relayed thanks from the City Council for organizing the event.
- d. Update on Tree Nursery and Spring Park Tree Plantings
Baker provided the Board with a picture of the new Lonsdale Tree Nursery (Phase I). Baker mentioned that Sentence-to-Serve was scheduled to help with the planting but never showed up. He said that Jeff Heller and Laura Carpentier helped plant 25 Black Hills Spruce and 25 Sugar Maples. The Board discussed that if more trees are added to the nursery next year, the entire Board should help with the planting.
- e. Baldwin Street Picnic Tables
Ziskovsky said that she checked in with a few of the neighboring residents regarding the possibility of locating a picnic table at the Baldwin Street open space area. She said that their response was to not put any type of sitting area at that park because of previous experiences with trash ending up in their yards and around the open space. She also questioned the necessity of another picnic table location requested by John Duban at 10th Avenue NW and Co. Rd. 4. The Board discussed putting up benches at strategic locations along the trail system instead.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

Ziskovsky asked about the status of the dog park project. Kodada and Baker explained that there may not be enough Council support this year for the project to go through.

The Board briefly discussed the possibility of disc golf course at one of the parks.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ziskovsky and seconded by Morgan to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, and Kodada; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner