

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
March 10, 2009**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

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 6:03 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

2. AGENDA

Kodada asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.

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

3. MINUTES

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Kraimer to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2009 regular meeting. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

John Duban, 800 8th Avenue NW, stated his concerns with a proposed dog park, and he stated that not many dogs are currently licensed. He said that dog owners do not pick up after their dogs along the trails, and he wondered if the same thing would happen at the dog park. He also asked for two picnic tables to be located on City property at the intersections of Co. Rd. 4 and 10th Avenue NW and the junction of Baldwin Street NW and Hwy 19.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

None

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. 2009 Spring Planting Update

Baker stated that on February 26, 2009, the City Council approved the 2009 Spring Planting Plan (20 trees) and a quote by Trcka Tree Moving & Sales in the amount of \$3,947.70. He said the trees will be planted around late April or early May. Kodada explained that the Council decided to have Trcka Tree Moving & Sales haul and plant the trees for an extra \$1,000 to receive a warranty.

b. Lonsdale Tree Nursery – Phase I (50 Trees) Update

Baker said that on February 26, 2009, the City Council approved Phase I of the new Lonsdale Tree Nursery to be located on City property at Main Street South and Idaho Street SW. He said that a total of 50 trees (25 Sugar Maples and 25 Black Hills Spruce) were purchased from Rice County Soil & Water Conservation District in the amount of \$62.84. He mentioned that the trees will arrive sometime in April. Carpentier offered to volunteer her time to the project, and she said that she could also meet with the Public Works Department before the trees arrive to plan out the site. Kodada mentioned that the site will be designed for easy mowing, maintenance, and watering. He also mentioned that the nursery will provide a huge cost savings to the City in 5 – 10 years.

c. Montgomery-Lonsdale School District Summer Recreation Program Update

Baker reported that Kathy Peterson, Montgomery-Lonsdale Community Education Director, did attend the February 12, 2009 Council meeting. He provided the Park Board with a copy of Peterson's 2008 Attendance Report and 2009 Budget & Program List. Kodada stated that the Council did approve \$8,500 for 2009 programming, but he mentioned that funds will probably be cut down to \$5,000 for 2010. He also mentioned that Montgomery made a 33% reduction in funding towards this year's summer recreation program due to cuts in Local Government Aid.

d. Update on the Lonsdale Lions Request to Operate the Jaycee Park Concession Stand for the 2009 Season

Baker mentioned that Bruce Lieske, Lonsdale Lions, attended the February 26, 2009 Council meeting to request permission to operate the Jaycee Park Concession Stand for the 2009 ball season. Baker said that the Council approved their request. Morgan informed everyone that the Lonsdale Jaycees did operate the concession stand previous to the Lions.

e. Hwy 19 Sidewalk Project Update

Baker said that the City Council authorized staff to obtain appraisal proposals for permanent sidewalk easements and temporary construction easements for the Hwy 19 Sidewalk Project at their February 12, 2009 meeting. He said that the Council also approved a proposal by WSB for final design and construction related services regarding the Hwy 19 Project. He provided a copy of WSB's proposed project timeline to the Board. Baker informed the Board that letters have been sent out to individual property owners along the proposed route regarding the project. He also said that the City has been working to schedule meetings for March 12, 2009. He mentioned the City is currently in the process

of obtaining bids for property appraisal services. Baker provided the Board with draft construction plans created by WSB. Kodada mentioned that the City is considering incorporating decorative artwork or insignias into the four pedestrian ramps at Hwy 19 and Main Street. Ziskovsky asked if the 2010 Hwy 19 Mill & Overlay Project is still on schedule. Kodada said yes. Baker explained that 2009 Hwy 19 construction work will be completed in preparation of the 2010 project, and it will entail a new south side sidewalk, new pedestrian ramps, drainage/storm water work, and curb and apron work.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discuss Request from Greg Lewis Regarding Trees

Baker provided the Board with a copy that City staff received on March 2, 2009 from Greg Lewis, 2240 265th Street West, Northfield, MN (approximately 22 miles from Lonsdale). He said that Lewis stated that he would be willing to donate 25-30 (12' to 20' tall) evergreen trees to the City for free, except that the City would be responsible for any moving costs. Baker said he called Trcka Tree Moving, and they stated that it would cost approximately \$125 to move a 12'-15' tall evergreen tree and \$300 to move a 15'-20' evergreen tree from that location. He also mentioned that Trcka's have 12' tall evergreens in stock that they would haul/plant for \$175/tree along with a one year warranty. The Board guided City staff to thank Lewis for his offer, but not accept it at this time due to the high cost of moving the trees. Carpentier mentioned that when moving trees, 15' tall trees are the maximum height that should be considered.

b. Approve the "April-May-June" Lonsdale Area Youth Recycling Green Team

Baker stated that the City placed an advertisement for the Green Team Program in Lonsdale Area News Review on February 24, 2009 as directed by the Park Board. He mentioned that the City only received one application for the "April-May-June" term, Cub Scout Pack 327. Baker reminded the Board that Cub Scout Pack # 327 did work as the Green Team back in Oct-Nov-Dec 2007.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Morgan to approve Cub Scout Pack # 327 as the "April-May-June" Green Team. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

c. Arbor Day 2009 Event Planning Update

Baker stated that on Friday, March 6, 2009, the 2009 Arbor Day Committee, consisting of himself, East Elementary Principal Dave Dooley, Micki Ziskovsky, and DNR Forester Angela Yuska, met at East Elementary to plan and discuss a potential Arbor Day event. He said that the invitees would include approximately 75 East and West Elementary 4th Grade students, Park Board Members, Council Members, the Nature Center Committee, City Tree Inspectors, the DNR, School Board members, School staff, the Jeffers Foundation, Trcka Tree Moving & Sales, the newspapers, and all interested Lonsdale residents. He said that the DNR will donate 15 tree spades and 125 trees for the event, so the kids can plant

trees on-site and take a tree home to plant. Ziskovsky explained that kids will split up into groups of two and plant trees around the school grounds. She said that the art teacher at East Elementary will help the students paint stakes that coordinate with a tree planting location as part of an on-going adopt-a-tree program at the school. Baker also provided the Board with Arbor Day Foundation information on how to celebrate Arbor Day, an example Arbor Day resolution, and information pertaining to Tree City USA standards.

A motion was made by Kraimer and seconded by Carpentier to recommend hosting a Joint Montgomery-Lonsdale School District – City of Lonsdale Arbor Day Event and Grand Opening of the East Elementary Nature Center on April 24, 2009 at East Elementary School. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

d. Park & Recreation Fund Update

Baker provided the Board with an updated Park & Recreation Fund spreadsheet showing on-going and future projects along with current balances. He also provided them with a Warming House Project spreadsheet showing a list of up-to-date donations and expenditures.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

Kodada reminded everyone that past and planned park and trail projects have been and will be funded directly through the development parkland fund. He stated that if park amenities, such as a dog park, helps sell one more house in Lonsdale, then the money was well used.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kraimer and seconded by Carpentier to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner