

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
December 8, 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 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

2. AGENDA

A motion was made by Kraimer and seconded by Carpentier to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Kodada, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

3. MINUTES

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Kraimer to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2009 regular meeting. Vote for: Kodada, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. PUBLIC HEARING

None

6. OLD BUSINESS

Morgan and Ziskovsky arrive.

a. 2010 Tree Planting Plan Discussion

Baker mentioned that the Park Board currently has money budgeted for approximately 10 trees at \$200/each for 2010. He said that the Board had discussed planting trees at previous meetings along the Railway Street trail, within Sticha Park, and next to the trail benches. Baker provided the Board with a proposed tree location planting plan for the Jacyee Park area and Sticha Park. The Board discussed planting trees along the trail between Jaycee Park and the

Fire Department. Baker noted that the stretch along Railway Street currently has overhead power lines, a drainage swale, a sanitary sewer line, and a future setback trail that should all be avoided when selecting tree planting locations. Ziskovsky mentioned that it would be nice to see trees lining the Railway Street trail from the Fire Department to the elementary school some day. The Board also discussed planting screening trees in front of the Rice County storage piles.

The Board discussed potential plantings at Sticha Park. They referenced a handout showing a park layout plan imposed overtop of an aerial photo. The Board talked about planting perimeter trees around the ball park, but they agreed that the first priority plantings in Sticha Park should be near the future amenities and the ball field bleachers. Carpentier said that a specially designed dugout tarp could be installed over the team benches to keep them out of the summer sun. Heller talked about the deep sanitary sewer line running through the park. Kodada asked if the play area and horse shoe pits locations should be flipped around.

Carpentier mentioned that trees may be needed at Trendera Memorial Park if the existing Cottonwood trees are taken down. The Board discussed the Cottonwood trees, DRS Field fencing, and potential tree plantings. Carpentier talked about landscaping the third baseline hill, and she asked if there was enough room for a soccer field at Trendera Memorial Park. Kodada directed City staff to email an aerial picture of the park to the Board.

- b. Consider Approval of Quote Submitted by L.A. Kodada & Sons in the Amount of \$16,825.00 for Excavation, Base, Concrete, and Restoration Work at Jaycee Park
Baker stated that the Council directed City staff to obtain quotes for the Jaycee Park Ice Rink & Skate Park Project at their November 12, 2009 meeting. He said staff mailed out quotes to J & L Concrete, Simon Brothers, and Kodada & Sons but only two quotes were received: Kodada and Simon Brothers. Baker explained that the City asked each bidder to provide three different quotes: Quote 1) excavation, base, concrete, and restoration work, Alt. 1) base and concrete, and Alt. 2) concrete work only. Kodada and Sons submitted a quote in the amount of \$16, 825.00 for Quote 1, whereas Simon Brothers quoted \$17,331.00 for Quote 1.

Baker said that he did speak with Lonsdale Lions President Bryant Tate, and Tate stated that the Lions would be willing to donate money towards the project. City Mayor and Lions Club member, Tim Rud, addressed the Board. He said that he is very excited about the possibility of a skate park. He mentioned that there may be as many as 100 kids in the area that would use a skate park. He said that the Lions are on board to donate money towards the project. He commended the Board on their work so far with the skate park, and he encouraged them to keep moving the project forward.

Ziskovsky mentioned that she recently spoke with some local skateboarders to gain insight into skating and skate parks. Morgan said that she would be willing

to offer help to any skate group looking to organize a fundraiser. The Board briefly discussed skate park advertising and fundraising ideas.

A motion was made by Ziskovsky and seconded by Morgan to approve a quote submitted by L.A. Kodada & Sons in the amount of \$16,825.00 for excavation, base, concrete, and restoration work for Jaycee Park – Skate Park Phase I. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None; Abstained: Kodada. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

c. Parks & Recreation Survey Discussion

Baker said that at their November meeting, the Park Board discussed the idea of using Survey Monkey as a tool to survey the community on park and recreation matters. Baker mentioned that the two major drawbacks of Survey Monkey are that it only allows up to 100 responses per survey and that the survey is hosted on the web. He said Survey Monkey's main benefit is that its basic service is free, which saves on letter and postage expenses that would otherwise be used to physically send out surveys. Baker said that thanks to the Park Board's idea, the City is now considering a more comprehensive community satisfaction survey that would include questions about all City services and projects, including some questions directly related to parks, trails, and recreation. Baker asked the Board to come up with 4 – 7 key parks, trails, and recreation related questions to include in a future community-wide survey. He also suggested that the Board consider conducting their own internal assessment survey in 2010.

Kodada suggested a few potential questions that could be used in a community survey. The Board also discussed creating a visual preference survey. Baker said that a community survey may be conducted in Spring or Summer 2010.

d. Archery Range Discussion

As requested at the previous Park Board meeting, Baker provided the Board with pictures from the Mankato Archery Range. The pictures showed 4 targets, an elevated platform, boundary fencing, berms, and signage. The Board discussed different potential locations for an archery range. Kodada suggested that the area owned by On-Site Marketing, southwest of Heath Creek and Co. Rd. 33 would be an ideal spot for a range. He asked City staff to contact On-Site Marketing to see if they would be open to the possibility of hosting an archery range on their property. Baker said that the City recently received a notice of public hearing from Rice County regarding a possible zoning ordinance amendment to add archery ranges as a conditional use within the Urban Reserve District. Baker reported that the County Zoning Administrator said that the Cannon River Sportsman Club was also looking to locate a range within the UR Zone near Northfield.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Consider Approval of Montgomery-Lonsdale Youth Wrestling as the Jan-Feb-March Green Team

Baker stated that the City currently has three Green Team applications on file, but Montgomery-Lonsdale Youth Wrestling was the only group to have selected January-February-March as their # 1 priority ranking. He said that M-L Wrestling also submitted their application before any other applications on file, and they were the only applicant that has not served as the green team thus far.

A motion was made by Morgan and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve Montgomery-Lonsdale Youth Wrestling as the January-February-March Green Team. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

b. Community Roadside Landscaping Program Update

Baker said that on December 3rd City staff sent an initiation letter to the District 6 Engineer regarding MN/DOT's Community Roadside Landscape Partnership Program. The Board commented on the two great-looking City welcome signs within the T.H. 19 right-of-way. Baker mentioned that the area around the signs is barren and could use some landscaping. He said that if approved, MN/DOT would help design and fund the landscaping project. Both Carpentier and Ziskovsky volunteered to help with the project if it goes through. The Board briefly discussed landscaping ideas and possible lighting options for the new signs.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

Kodada provided an update on the DRS Field Dugout Project. He mentioned that Public Works found three volunteers to help initiate the rebuilding of the first baseline dugout.

The Board briefly discussed adding exercise equipment and different amenities into the park and trail system.

Heller informed the Board that Public Works started flooding the Jaycee Park Ice Rink and ice would be ready for skating in a few weeks.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Kraimer to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Morgan, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Kraimer, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner