

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
OCTOBER 13, 2015**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jeanette Utecht, Micki Ziskovsky, and Kevin Kodada

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Laura Carpentier and Shelly Narum

**STAFF PRESENT:**

City Planner Benjamin Baker

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kodada called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

**2. AGENDA**

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

**3. MINUTES**

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve the Minutes from the August 11, 2015 Regular Meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, and Kodada; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

## 6. GENERAL BUSINESS

### a. Lonsdale Baseball/Softball Scheduling & Improvement Ideas – Dan Rud

Dan Rud asked the Park Board to consider a few modifications to the Jaycee Park ball fields in an effort to get Tri-City United (TCU) 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade baseball and softball to schedule games in Lonsdale this upcoming spring. He said that Lonsdale has great fields and it would be nice to show them off. Rud mentioned that there could be an opportunity to get a few TCU games in Lonsdale if the TCU School Board gives the go ahead. Rud said that the Field No. 1 infield would need to be extended about 10 ft. outward with ag lime and that the bases and associated unground base posts would also be required for the 90 ft. bases. Rud stated that it would be great if the Public Works Department would help drag the fields and chalk the lines if a schedule was provided to them in advance. Kodada said it should only take about 20 minutes to prep the field. He said that that the season typically starts in March and ends in May. Kodada said that the ballfields aren't used as much as in the past, and he agreed with the idea to have more school ball teams play their games on the nice fields in Lonsdale. Ziskovsky agreed, but she mentioned that the weed problem on Jayce Field No. 2 needs to be fixed. Rud said that there is no guarantee that Lonsdale will be used to host school ball games, but he encouraged the City to get the fields ready if the idea goes forward this winter. He said that there could even be double header games that end up being played under the lights. Overall, the Park Board indicated that they were in favor of the field improvement idea. They also agreed that the Lonsdale Lions could possibly benefit from the extra events, if the concession stand was opened during the spring ball games.

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Ziskovsky to recommend that the City make the necessary field improvements to the Jaycee Park Ball Fields in preparation for hosting 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade ball games. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, and Kodada; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

b. Review of 2016 Budget

The Park Board members reviewed a 5-Year Parks & Recreation Capital Improvement Plan, which showing proposed and budgeted improvements for Lonsdale's Park System on a double-sided spreadsheet. Baker noted that the City Council recently approved the 2016 Preliminary Budget, which included \$40,000 for future capital outlay projects like a Splash Pad. He said that \$9,000 was designated for soccer/landscaping and \$39,000 was budgeted for maintenance items, such as new hockey rink boards, new woodchips, and trail seal coating.

Baker explained that the Park Board would be able to fund the following items in 2017, 2018, and 2019 if \$123,000 was designated each year towards capital outlay:

- splash pad
- restrooms
- park shelter
- dog park
- Kalina Park boardwalk
- park/trail benches
- full-size hockey rink
- fitness equipment
- parking lot improvements
- ½ the cost of tennis courts

The Park Board members agreed with the proposed improvement plan, and they thanked the City Council for the \$49,000 in new park improvement specific funds that were designated in the 2016 Budget.

c. Update on Splash Pad Planning

Baker noted that a Landscape Architect from WSB was currently working on a few different plans and a packet of information for a potential splash pad project. He said that the information should be ready by the November Park Board meeting. Ziskovsky stated that it is a good idea to be informed and do the project right the first time. Utecht wondered what the overall operational/upkeep costs would be for a splash pad. Baker said that information should be included as part of the research conducted by WSB. The Board members reviewed a splash pad flyer provided by WSB Engineers along with proposed expense sheet, which showed four different improvement options.

d. Update on the Rezac Nature Preserve Boardwalk/Fishing Pier & Pond Name Discussion

Baker stated that the boardwalk and fishing pier sections should be completed by R & L Woodcraft sometime over the next few weeks. He noted that the plan is still to install the pier/boardwalk sections yet this Fall. The Board agreed that it was important to name the 9-acre pond soon. Baker asked the Board members to provide their top 2 different pond names by the next meeting. Baker said that the Council would like a recommendation from the Park Board. Ziskovsky said that she really liked the name “red dock pond”. Kodada liked the archery themed “bullseye pond” name.

e. Update on Green Team Program

The Board reviewed a list of past Green Teams and a list of applications currently on file. Baker said that a recent article in the Lonsdale Area News Review has spurred an influx of new applications.

f. Update on the Main Street Plaza Little Free Library Project

The Park Board reviewed a few pictures of the Little Free Library that was recently erected at the Main Street Plaza. Baker said that Mandy Wadekamper constructed the Library House and stocked it with books to promote literacy. He said that Lonsdale Area News Review will be doing an article on the little library.

g. Linking Lonsdale Review/Article

The Board reviewed pictures and a News Review newspaper article from the Linking Lonsdale Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting event.

h. Weather Bug Review/Article

Baker provided the Park Board with a link to the TCU Lonsdale Elementary School WeatherBug information site. Baker said that the Park Board/City donated money towards the Lonsdale Elementary School Green Team project earlier this year. The Board members reviewed a News Review article about the new weather station and website.

## 7. MISCELLANEOUS

- Fitness Park. Ziskovsky had the Park Board watch a short WCCO Finding Minnesota report on a fitness park recently constructed in Brainerd, MN.
- Dog Park. Baker said that a local group contacted him early in the day, and they expressed interest in giving a “dog park presentation” to the Park Board at an upcoming meeting.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Ziskovsky to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, and Kodada; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Benjamin Baker, City Planner