

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2013**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Micki Ziskovsky, Kevin Kodada, Laura Carpentier, and Shelly Narum

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jeanette Utecht

**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 Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; 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 October 7, 2013 Meeting. Vote for: Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpenetier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**5. PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

a. Update on Tri-City United Safe Routes to School Initiative

Baker stated that Tri-City United School District was recently awarded a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Planning Assistance Grant from the Minnesota Department of Transportation. He said that representatives from Le Center, Montgomery, Lonsdale, MNDOT, Rice County, Le Sueur County, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Minnesota, and Region Nine Development Commission all met on November 6, 2013 for an initial kickoff meeting at Montgomery City Hall. Baker noted that the kickoff meeting team will be divided by community to form local SRTS teams in Lonsdale, Montgomery, and Le Center. He said that additional

stakeholders will be invited to participate in the local SRTS teams moving forward. The Park Board members reviewed the proposed planning process timeline, statistics on associated physical activity, and a detailed overview on the program. Baker noted that the goal of SRTS is to ultimately: 1) help kids and families become more physically active, 2) help kids arrive to school focused and ready to learn, and 3) create a safer and more connected community. The Park Board members looked at some aerial photos of intersections and trails near the Lonsdale Elementary School. Baker explained that this planning initiative should help the City's chances in landing a future infrastructure grant for improved pedestrian crossings/signage and better sidewalks. Both Narum and Kodada stated that they would be interested in helping on the SRTS team. The Park Board all agreed that the grant is a great opportunity for the community.

b. Update on the Main Street Plaza Project

The Park Board members reviewed pictures of the Main Street Plaza Project from October 28, 2013 and November 7, 2013. Baker noted that the project is now on hold until spring 2014 due to the cold temperatures. He read a project email update from Kevin Malecha of Common Grounds Lawn & Landscape that noted that some concrete has been poured, all the block work is done, and all the underground electrical has been installed. Malecha's email also said that the fountain components are completed and waiting for install. The Park Board members suggested painting and/or adding lattice panels with ivy along the north exterior wall of the 121 Main Street North building. The Park Board members stated that the project looks nice so far.

c. Update on the Kalina Park Tree Planting Project and Mini-Boardwalk Bridge

The Board reviewed updated pictures of the Mini-Boardwalk and Tree Planting Project at Kalina Park. The Park Board members all commented on how impressed they were with the significant sizes of the 29 trees planted by Andy Jirik. Ziskovsky noted that some people have been using the trail leading to the play area as a driveway. Kodada suggested adding a sign to keep vehicles off the new gravel path. The Park Board members all agreed that the Jaycee Park and Trena Memorial Park parking lots should be paved before the new Kalina Park parking lot is paved. Instead of paving the Kalina Park parking lot, the Board thought that a wetland boardwalk, connecting to the other side of the park, would be more beneficial at this point. Carpentier stated that the new trees should have mulch added around the bases to protect the roots from the winter cold.

d. Update on the Compost Site, Soccer Fields, Archery Range Site Plan

Baker noted that due to the grades in Outlot E of the new Lonsdale Business Park, that proposed soccer fields location will probably not be possible along the future Pond View Drive extension. He also mentioned that the gravel road leading to the archery range may be adjusted depending on access to Garfield Avenue once it is reconstructed. The Board suggested contacting the local school districts to see how many kids are in soccer and to what extent is programming available.

Baker thanked Kodada, Ziskovsky, and Utecht for attending the October 29<sup>th</sup> Tri-Lakes Sportsman Club meeting in Millersburg to request sponsorship in the new archery range. The Board reviewed and approved a donation request letter to the sportsman club for help with funding the proposed parking lot, benches, signs, targets, platforms, ground quivers, and bow racks. Kodada figured that the club may give up to \$2,000 - \$4,000 towards the project.

e. Update on the Linking Lonsdale DNR Trails Grant and the Heath Creek Boardwalk Trail

Baker stated that the Public Works Department started hauling the boardwalk sections down into the wetland area for construction. The Park Board members reviewed pictures of the boardwalk sections getting prepped for construction along with pictures that showed significant amounts of grass that grew up through the boardwalk section installed in the spring of 2013. Baker said that the City may need to place stapled landscaping fabric to the underside of the wooden boardwalk to keep the wetland grasses from creeping through the gaps. Carpentier mentioned that canvas material may work as an option as well.

Baker said that Ron Johnson of Greatwrench Auto Repair mentioned that he is in favor of a trail bridge or culvert that would lead from the boardwalk trail over to Industrial Drive SE, across Heath Creek and along the south-side of Hwy 19. The Park Board members agreed that a trail route along Hwy 19 from 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE to 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE will be necessary in the near future.

**7. MISCELLANEOUS**

- In regard to a recent request by the local hockey association, Baker explained to Narum that the hockey parents should set up a meeting with the City and/or Chris Michael, of CTM Services (ice resurfacing machine repair and sales), to discuss better ways to keep the ice at Jaycee Park smoothers and cleared of snow. He said that keeping the ice smooth takes a lot of man power and the right equipment.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Ziskovsky and seconded by Naum to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Benjamin Baker, City Planner