

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
APRIL 23, 2013**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**STAFF PRESENT:**

City Planner Benjamin Baker

**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**

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

**3. MINUTES**

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Narum to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2013 Regular Meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**5. PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- a. Presentation from Bill Hachmeister of Water Odyssey and Bruce Pudwill of Midwest Playscapes Regarding Splash Pads

Bill Hachmeister, National Sales Manager for Water Odyssey, and Bruce Pudwill, President of Midwest Playscapes presented the Park Board with a detailed slide show presentation regarding spray/splash pads. Each Board member was given a three-ring binder to review, including spray pad information, aquatic playground equipment and components catalogs, and three proposed plan view layouts with associated costs. Pudwill introduced Hachmeister to Park Board.

Hachmeister stated that square spray pads are the easiest and cheapest to construct, followed by rectangular shaped pads, and then circles and odd shaped play areas. He talked about the advantages and disadvantages of the two main types of spray pad filtration systems: 1) recirculation systems and 2) flow-to-waste systems, in which water flows in from the watermain and out directly to the sanitary sewer system. He estimated that recirculation systems cost around \$100,000.00 more than the flow-to-waste systems, and he noted that they need to be maintained just like a pool 3-to-4 times a day. He said that recirculation systems use about \$3,500.00 worth of chemicals each year. Hachmeister said that flow-to-waste systems do not require any chemicals. He said that cities should be aware that recirculation systems can be vulnerable to health issues like *Cryptosporidium*. He mentioned that health codes may change in 2014 to require Ultra Violet sanitizer solutions, approximately \$25,000.00, for recirculation spray pads.

Hachmeister suggested adding an activation switch on each of the play features to save on water usage. He said that timers, similar to a spa/hot tub, and motion sensors can also be utilized to save on water usage. He mentioned that some cities have used the splash pad areas for ice rinks during the winter months. He suggested using bronze solenoids, which moves the water faster. He suggested switching out and interchanging different spray features over time to provide patrons with a variety of water fun options. He also recommended using some themed items to create visual interest. He suggested having at least two vertical water features to add curb appeal.

Hachmeister said that spray pads could use as much as 40,000 gallons of water per day. Hachmeister said that the cost of above-ground spray pad equipment is only a third of the total project cost. He said that two-thirds of the total project cost goes towards piping, concrete, landscaping, and electrical work. He also mentioned leaving enough green space around the spray pad area so that dirt, rocks, and other items are not being drug into the play area. The Park Board members thanked Hachmeister for coming to Lonsdale and providing such detailed information.

Narum said that a new splash pad in Lonsdale would be a huge area attraction, and it could potentially draw in a lot of people. Ziskovsky commented that splash pads are a lot of money. The Park Board agreed that splash pads spendy, but they could also attract people to town that normally would not come to Lonsdale, which could have a positive economic impact on area businesses.

b. Consider Approval of the Lonsdale Business Park Preliminary Plat

The Board members reviewed the detailed Staff Report and associated attachments concerning the Lonsdale Business Park Preliminary Plat. Baker explained that all the land within Outlot F, located south of the future Pond View Drive extension, will be deeded over to the City of Lonsdale for public use. He said that a paved trail will wind through the wooded hillside, around the scenic pond, and next to a few low/wetland areas in Outlot F. He mentioned that the trail will then run north-south through Outlot C, a 75-wide greenway buffer, and eventually connect to the Southern Trail within the Willow Creek Heights neighborhood. Baker noted that the Project Engineer is currently working on finishing a tree preservation study/plan, delineating any on-site wetlands, and creating a geotechnical report based on soil borings.

Kodada mentioned that as part of the negotiations with Bremer Bank, it would be a good idea to connect the new trail to Kalina Park via a trail loop running just south of the pond. The Board members liked the idea of using the large pond for fishing and canoeing.

Baker said that MNDOT is requiring a portion of Hwy 19 to be widened to incorporate new turn lanes at the Garfield Avenue intersection, but he stated that the eastern welcome sign/landscaping will not need to be moved. Overall, the Park Board members were excited about the additional parkland, woodlands, and large pond being brought into the City's park system along with the trail connection from Garfield Avenue to Willow Creek Heights.

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve the Lonsdale Business Park Preliminary Plat. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

c. Update on Heath Creek Boardwalk Trail and Review Grant Application Submittal for the 2013 DNR Local Trails Connection Program

The Park Board reviewed the City's recent grant application for the 2013 Local Trail Connections Program sponsored by the DNR along with an article from the Lonsdale Area News Review, dated April 13, 2013, regarding the subject. Baker explained that the grant, if awarded, would help fund the Hwy 19 Trail Crossing Project and the DRS Trail Project in the amount of \$94,941.00. The Park Board members thanked staff for initiating the grant application that was due on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Baker also provided the Board with an update on the EDA's Main Street Streetscape Project. He stated that the project will be on hold until the City/County decide to do a complete street reconstruction project to Main Street/Co Rd 33. Baker also provided a brief update on the Downtown Park Plaza Project. Carpentier asked if something could be done to improve some of the buildings located in Downtown Lonsdale.

d. Update on Recent City Council Action Regarding the 2013 Lonsdale Parks Project (Improvements @ Sticha Park & Kalina Park)

The Park Board members reviewed the submitted quotes for the 2013 Lonsdale Parks Project. He said that the Council awarded the project to the low bidder, Tim Skluzacek Construction in the amount of \$83,396.00 at the March 28, 2013 meeting. He noted that six members of the Sticha Family were in attendance at the City Council meeting, and they presented a check, in the amount of \$5,000, to the City for construction of a new pavilion at Sticha Park.

In reviewing the site plan for Sticha Park, the Board suggested moving the drinking fountain closer to the ball field, on the western side of the pavilion.

e. Update on Recent City Council Action Regarding the Idaho Street Tree Planting Project

Baker noted that the City Council recently approved a quote submitted by Trcka Tree Moving & Sales, in the amount of \$7,860.00, for the planting of 59 trees along Idaho Street SW and 2 replacement trees for behind the western welcome sign. Baker said that the trees would be planted as-soon-as the weather cooperates. Baker noted that he obtained all the necessary right-of-entry signatures from the abutting neighbors. Carpentier suggested using TreeGators for watering the Idaho Street trees. She explained that TreeGators can hold 20-gallons of water for slow release irrigation of trees.

f. Update on the RSWCD Trees

Baker reminded the Park Board that Lonsdale's annual Arbor Day event is scheduled for the afternoon of May 3<sup>rd</sup> at Lonsdale Elementary School. He said that approximately 250 students will receive a tree to bring home and plant. He also mentioned that 25 – 30 trees will be planted on the school grounds.

Baker mentioned that the 75 trees ordered from the Rice Soil & Water Conservation District will be arriving on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April. The Board reviewed the tree order form. He said that those particular trees will be planted in the Idaho Street Tree Nursery. The Board discussed and agreed that the tree nursery needed some pruning work and tree labeling completed sometime soon.

g. Consider Approval of the Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$9,500.00 for Eight (8) Picnic Tables (for pavilion) and Five (5) Benches w/ Backrests (for playground area)

The Park Board reviewed a quote from Summit Supply Corporation in the amount of \$9,472.00. Baker said that the City has ordered most of its recent picnic tables and benches from Summit Supply. He said that due to the large order amount, he would try to bargain with Summit Supply to get at least a 3% discount. The Park Board members decided that the bench color should be green and the frame color should be black. They also agreed that 5-pairs of large surface mount covers should be included in the order.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to order eight (8) picnic tables and five (5) benches along with five (5)-pairs of surface mount covers in the not-to-exceed amount of \$9,500.00. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

## **7. MISCELLANEOUS**

- Baker provided a brief update on the status a proposed archery range near the Harmony Meadows and Willow Creek Heights neighborhoods.

Utecht had to leave the meeting.

- Ziskovsky listed the items needed for the tree preparation portion of the upcoming Arbor Day celebration. She also mentioned that she would invite the Lions Club members to help with the event.
- Baker noted that the Park Board should start prioritizing projects over their next few meetings in preparation for the upcoming 2014 Budget.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Benjamin Baker, City Planner