

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
MAY 13, 2014**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

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, Kodada, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

**3. MINUTES**

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Utecht to approve the Minutes from the April 8, 2014 Meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**5. PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

a. Update on Arbor 2014

The Park Board reviewed many pictures of the 2014 Arbor Day event that was held at Lonsdale Elementary School on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Baker stated that over 300 seeding trees were prepared by 15 local volunteers for students to take home and plant in their own yards. He also reviewed the schedule of events that took place that day. He thanked all the volunteers and event organizers, including Ashley Tabery from Rice County Soil & Water Conservation District, Mayor Rud, Principal Klitzke, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher Adam Larson. Baker also went through the four criteria requirements of being a Tree City USA, such as Lonsdale.

b. Update on the Main Street Plaza & Veterans Memorial Park

The Park Board looked at recent pictures of the Main Street Plaza project, which showed all of the finished concrete work. The members commented on how nice the sweat-troweled concrete looked around the fountain wall. Baker stated that the project should be wrapping up over the next couple of weeks. The Park Board determined that they would like to schedule a grand opening event on Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 in lieu of their next scheduled Park Board meeting. They agreed that the EDA, City Council, and Downtown businesses should be invited to the grand opening. The Board direct City staff to come up with some different pub chair ideas and options to consider. Carpentier, Ziskovsky, and Utecht asked if Common Grounds Landscaping was still planning to put the planting bowls on the landscape columns. Baker said that City staff made the decision to put on concrete caps instead. The Board members mentioned the planting bowls were going to be one of the unique and attractive features of the project.

Baker also provided an update on the progress of the Veterans Memorial Task Force. He provided the Park Board with the latest site plan and memorial designs to review. He stated that depending on fundraising efforts, the group is shooting for a final completion and commencement date to be scheduled sometime between Independence Day 2015 and Veterans Day 2015. The Park Board members all liked the proposed site plan and memorial ideas. Kodada suggested pouring the center concrete area with sweat-troweled concrete and leaving the center star with a darker colored sweat-trowel look.

c. Update on the 2014 Historic 3-R Landmark School Project

The Park Board reviewed pictures of the aged and weathered 3-R Landmark School building. Baker mentioned that the Council approved a quote from Tim Skluzacek Construction on May 8<sup>th</sup> to restore/repair the historic schoolhouse before Community Days in August. Baker noted that the City received an approximate \$1,000.00 grant from Valspar Corporation and the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation for the project. He also mentioned that the 3-R Landmark Group would also be donating \$4,000.00 towards the project.

d. Update on the Linking Lonsdale Project & DNR Trail Connections Grant

The Park Board members looked at the proposed trail connection plans for the Linking Lonsdale Project. Baker stated that Traci Vibo of the DNR contacted the City on May 6<sup>th</sup> to relay the good news that the Linking Lonsdale Grant was finally ready and that an additional \$8,463.00 was added on to the \$81,000.00 original grant amount. Baker stated that the DRS portion of the trail connection project may have to wait until later in the summer because of a proposed sewer line project. The Board members stated that it would be great if the 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and lumber yard portion of the Linking Lonsdale project could be completed as-soon-as-possible, so that trail users can utilize the new pathway and wooden boardwalk throughout the summer months in 2014.

e. Update on the Kalina Park Project

Baker stated that the Council awarded the Kalina Park concrete work project on May 8<sup>th</sup> to L.A. Kodada & Sons Masonry. He said that the project should be completed by mid-June. Baker mentioned that I & S Group should be getting a quote for the trail section between Pond View Drive and the new mini-boardwalk bridge.

f. Welcome Sign Flowers

Carpentier stated that she would be planting flowers at the welcome signs sometime soon, and she asked for advice on what type of flowers/colors were preferred. The Park Board members stated that they liked the way the flowers looked over the last couple of years, and they thanked Carpentier for volunteering her time to pick up the flowers and plant them.

g. Southern Trail Update

Baker stated that the City Administrator and himself helped stake out the new Southern Trail extension from Willow Creek Heights to Garfield Avenue earlier that morning along with I & S Group. He mentioned that the new trail, around the Lonsdale Business Park, would be one of Lonsdale's nicest and most scenic trails once it is finished.

**7. MISCELLANEOUS**

- Kodada stated that a Cottonwood tree did fall over on top the fence at Trendera Memorial Park during the strong stom/winds that occurred on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Ziskovsky to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Benjamin Baker, City Planner