

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
July 18, 2011**

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

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 Utecht 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 Ziskovsky to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2011 regular 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 Skate Park Location Options

Baker noted that the City may be pursuing the acquisition of the Rice County parcel located at the intersection of Co. Rd. 4 and 5th Avenue NW. He said that the City should know more details by next Winter or Spring. The Park Board all agreed that that location would be ideal for a new skate park.

b. Update on Sticha Park Volleyball Courts

Baker provided the Board with a picture of the recently completed volleyball courts (showing a completed off-street parking area and restored grounds). The Park Board members thanked the Public Works Department for their hard work in

completing the new volleyball courts at Sticha Park. The Board members reported that the courts and parking area were already being used.

c. Update on Olympics Day 2011

Baker and Utecht thanked everyone for helping out with Olympics Day 2011. Baker mentioned that the City received \$1,500.00 (S.H.I.P grant) for organizing and hosting four different Olympic Day events in Lonsdale.

d. Consider Approval of a Resolution Allowing for Overnight Camping @ Jaycee Park During Community Days 2011

Baker stated that Cindy Flicek has reserved the ball fields at Jaycee Park and Sticha Park for a softball tournament scheduled for August 12th, 13th, and 14th (Community Days 2011). He mentioned that Flicek requested that the City Council and Park Board consider allowing overnight camping again at Jaycee Park during the event to accommodate tournament participants. He said it is a similar request as in 2010. Baker said that according to Flicek, only 4 – 6 people actually camped inside of the Jaycee Park hockey rink during last year's tournament. After brief discussion, the Park Board members did not see any issues with the request.

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Ziskovsky to recommend approval of a resolution allowing for overnight camping @ Jaycee Park during Community Days 2011. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

e. Discuss Permanent Fencing for the DRS Field @ Trena Memorial Park

Lonsdale Baseball Club representative Bob Brezina alerted the Park Board to the need for a northern perimeter fence at the DRS Field @ Trena Memorial Park. He explained that ball game spectators can currently watch any game at the DRS from the northern hillside (between the Trena Memorial Park play equipment and the DRS Ball Field) without paying because there is not a physical boundary in place. He suggested that the City allow a 4 ft. high chain-link fence to be installed along the northern hillside for a distance of 450 ft. – 550 ft. to promote controlled access/viewing of the ball games. Baker noted that a temporary orange fence was recently erected for the Independence Day weekend games. He also said that a few complaints were received regarding the unattractive appearance of the orange fence. Carpentier asked if the temporary fence has helped. Brezina said yes. Utecht mentioned that adequate room would need to be maintained for the winter snowmobile trail that runs between the DRS Field and the RayAnn Field. Kodada said that new fencing for the first base line side of RayAnn Field should be completed at the same time a permanent DRS boundary fence goes in. The Board discussed what should be done with the old cottonwood trees currently standing on the hillside. They also came up with different physical barrier ideas that may work including: a retractable line system, landscaping/plantings, split-rail fencing, and nicer looking temporary fence. The Board directed Brezina to obtain cost estimates for the fencing and bring the numbers back to one of the

next Park Board meetings. Kodada stated that any permanent fencing would most likely be constructed in the Spring of 2012.

f. Continue Discussion on Winter Trails Priority Map

The Park Board members continued their discussion on ranking the trails as “high, medium, low, or no” to help the Public Works Department determine the scope of snow plowing trails during the 2012-13 season. Although the Park Board members suggested that all trails remain open (kept clear of snow/ice), they approved a Snow Plow Priority Map, which shows the Public Works Department which trails should be cleared first. Kodada said that all effort will be made to keep the trails clear of snow during the upcoming season. The other Board members agreed with Kodada, stating that many people utilize the trails all year round.

g. Continue Discussion on Remote Watering Ideas for the Welcome Sign Landscaping Plants and Annual Flowers

The Board discussed several different portable and on-site options for irrigating the landscaping plantings and annual flowers around the new City welcome signs. Baker suggested that Carpentier meet separately with the Public Works Director, Fire Chief, and the City Administrator to come up with a recommendation.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

Baker stated that Phase II of MnDOT’s Roadside Landscaping Partnership is currently pending due to the State Shutdown.

Ziskovsky stated that it would be nice to get some shade trees planted along Idaho Street SW. She also mentioned that the small tree planting area at M-L East Elementary is really looking great due to the work of Facilities Manager Dave Petersen.

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 7:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner