

Medina Park Commission Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2008

Medina City Hall

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The Park Commission of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on May 21, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Medina City Hall. Park Commission Chair Ann Thies presided.

**1) Call to Order**

**Commissioners present:** Ann Thies, Ben Benson, Brian Kingsley, Galen Bruer, Madeleine Linck, Beth Nielsen, and Peter Lecy

**Commissioners absent:** None

**Also present:** Steve Scherer, Jodi Wunsch, and Carolyn Smith

**2) Additions to the Agenda:**

None

**3) Approval of the Minutes from April 16, 2008:**

*A motion was made by Ben Benson and seconded by Beth Nielsen to approve the minutes with no changes. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Approval of the Minutes from May 7, 2008 (Annual Park Tour)**

- Pg 1, Entrance Plaza Fountain:...There was a ~~general consensus~~ some interest from the Park Commission...
- Pg 2, Other Items: Park Signs. There should be a ~~street sign~~ two street signs on Brockton Lane, one from the north and one from the south, directing people to the parking lot for Hamel Legion Park.

*A motion was made by Madeleine Linck and seconded by Brain Kingsley to approve the minutes with the above changes. Motion passed unanimously.*

**4) Public Comments (on items not on the agenda):** Moved to end of meeting.

**5) Introduction of New Park Commissioner – Peter Lecy**

Peter Lecy introduced himself to everyone and everyone else introduced themselves to Peter Lecy.

**6) Trail Study**

The Park Commission continued reviewing the trail study document. The Park Commission reviewed and modified the text for all the Moderately-Low priority trails.

Willow Dr. South of Co Rd 24 to Morningside Road: If Willow Drive is to be rebuilt using MSA, this could also be a potential opportunity to somewhat straighten the “S” curve past the substation. Madeleine Link would like to see very little straightening and flattening of Willow Dr.

Hamel Road/County Road 115: No substantial text changes.

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Tamarack Drive: This is a relatively narrow road. Discussion occurred if there may be future opportunity to put in a boardwalk. Steve Scherer suggested that the road could be widened in the future, if the city ever raised the road.

County Road 118/Blackfoot Trail: No substantial text changes.

Pioneer Trail/Willow Drive: This trail should be split into two trails, both remaining moderately low priority. Willow Drive should be listed as its own trail and it should include the north portion of Willow Drive that is currently mentioned on the East Chippewa Trail Description. Both these trails will be constructed as development occurs.

Holy Name – Hunter Trail: The need for this trail is to create a north south route and to link Holy Name Park to the trail system. The recommended surface type should be paved shoulder. Other opportunities could be to acquire the right-of-way from North Ridge Farms, create the trail when the road is resurfaced in the future, and work with the county to create a crosswalk across County Road 24.

Parkview Drive: This trail is needed to create a safe connection where the loop ends in Baker Park. Currently Parkview Drive is a County Road, which means the City can only recommend this trail, unless the road was to be turned back to the City.

**7) Park Tour Follow Up**

The Park Commissioners discussed a number of topics that were generated from the annual park tour on May 7, 2008.

- a) Hamel Legion Park Entrance Plaza – Everyone liked the smaller square picnic tables for the plaza. There was a general consensus on the fountain location and boulder type structure. It should be placed amongst the shrubs and serve as the center focal point as people drive into the park. The Park Commission requested that the City get two quotes for the fountain from different companies and bring it back to the next Park Commission meeting.
- b) Transformer at Hamel Legion Park – At the Park Tour, the idea of cedar fencing was discussed to screen the transformer. The Park Commission decided that a cedar fence would not improve the situation and maybe rocks, shrubs, and plantings may be a better solution. Steve Scherer said he would ask Xcel Energy what types of screening ideas they may have since it is their transformer.
- c) Cover for Fire Pit – Galen Bruer suggested raising the ring around the fire pit instead of placing a removable cover over it.
- d) Rainwater Nature Area – The Park Commission briefly discussed the need to replace or remove the bridge over Elm Creek. A designated trail across the bridge should not be encouraged until the trail continues to a sitting location or connects with neighboring property.
- e) Walnut Park – It was discussed that Walnut Park could be a possible rain garden demonstration area. The Park Commission also suggested sending out letters and surveys to the residents in Independence Beach to get their ideas of what they would like to see happen at Walnut Park. Madeleine Linck suggested putting up signs in all of the City's parks requesting that people clean up after their dogs.

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**8) Staff Report**

- a) Website– It was suggested to create links to Three Rivers Park District’s website and Wolsfeld Wood’s website. Hamel Legion Park’s address should be listed as Mill Drive and Brockton Lane. Link the Hamel Community Building page to the Park’s page. It would also be nice to have links on the main map to each park location.
- b) County Road 116 Trail– Steve Scherer updated the Park Commission that the City was in the process of setting up appointments with landowners to secure the remaining easements. The work will be put off until next year because of the approved preliminary plans to realign County Road 116.
- c) County Road 19 Trail–Scherer gave a brief update that work would begin this fall from County Road 24 to Maple Street. There was some discussion from the Park Commission on the location of the horse trail and the paved trail. Scherer explained that at one point the horse trail would continue along the road and the paved trail would go into the park across a boardwalk. Ann Thies questioned if Three Rivers Park District considered creating a dog walking zone on the west side of County Road 19 from Independence Beach neighborhood to the underpass.
- d) Rainwater Nature Area – Scherer gave a brief update and showed pictures on progress at Rainwater Nature Area.
- e) Future Agenda Items– Ann Thies suggested that the Park Commissioners come with ideas for future agenda items so we can start creating a list of non-pressing items that we can have on the back-burner for months when the agenda is light. It was suggested to discuss the Independence Beach neighborhood trail when the agenda is light.

**Public Comments (on items not on the agenda):** Gerry Dykhoff was present at the end of the meeting to thank the Park Commissioners for their generous memorial donation to plant a tree in Rosie Dykhoff’s memory. Gerry also requested an update from the Park Commission on creating entrance signs for Hamel Legion Park. Thies said that the Park Commission was waiting to create the signs until the City of Medina came up with a new logo. Beth Nielsen said she would address the City Council at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting requesting that we consider doing a citizen logo contest.

**9) Adjourn**

*A motion was made by Madeleine Linck, seconded by Brian Kingsley and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.*

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.**

Minutes prepared by Jodi Wunsch.