
Meeting Announcement and Agenda
Cambridge Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission
City Council Chambers
Meeting, Tuesday, October 11, 2016
7:00 pm

Members of the audience are encouraged to follow the agenda. Copies of the agenda are on the table outside the Council Chambers door. When addressing the Commission, please state your name and address for the official record.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of Agenda (p. 1)
3. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Approval of the September 13, 2016 minutes (p. 3)
4. New Business
 - A. Cade Peck-Eagle Scout Project request (verbal)
 - B. Grants for 2017 (Concert Series, Movies in the Park, Painting in the Park) (verbal)
 - C. Next month-potential to meet with Community Ed and Outdoor Edge on Programming (verbal)
 - D. Long Range Plan discussion (p. 9)
5. Other Business/Miscellaneous
 - A. City Council Update
 - B. Commissioner Concerns
6. Adjourn

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**PARKS, TRAILS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 13, 2016**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Cambridge Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission was held at Cambridge City Hall, 300 – 3rd Avenue NE, Cambridge, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chair Kelli Klossner, Mark Ziebarth, Thea Lowman, Jennifer Fuhol, Lisa Iverson (City Council Representative), and Jack Nelson (Youth Representative).

Members Absent: Barry Wendorf (Excused)

Others Present: Community Development Director Marcia Westover

CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Klossner called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Klossner welcomed student representative Jack Nelson to the Commission.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Iverson moved, seconded by Lowman, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6/0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ziebarth moved, seconded by Fuhol, to approve the April 12, 2016 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Motion carried 6/0.

NEW BUSINESS

Splash Pad

Westover stated in an effort to start discussion on what the Parks Commission would like to see happen with a splash pad, she provided a couple different illustrations of options under \$100,000. Westover explained the Parks Commission started with a base cost of \$50,000 but quickly learned that amount doesn't get much in terms of splash equipment and the water recirculation equipment alone is costly.

Westover asked the Parks Commissioners to discuss what they would like to see long term: one larger splash park in one location or several smaller water features throughout the City in various neighborhood parks. Westover asked if the options presented are sufficient or would the members like to see more water features? The Parks Commissioners were asked to express their ideas with staff and staff can then do more research. Westover added the Commission will be discussing the Long Range Plan, what the priority is for a splash pad and what the options are for long range planning.

Commissioners discussed the options presented, along with examples of splash pads in neighboring communities. Fuhol asked if the City would consider charging an entry fee for a larger splash pad. Klossner questioned whether the entry fees would generate enough income to pay for a seasonal staff person to collect the fees. Iverson asked if many children get hurt at a splash pad. Several Commissioners explained that splash pads have a soft, textured, rubbery surface, are not made of hard cement floors and, unlike a swimming pool, there is not deep water so drowning issues are not present. Most splash pads require parents to be with their children at all times.

Ziebarth asked if a splash pad is a City Council priority. Since the aquatic center idea was not approved, does the Council want to go this direction instead? Westover stated the idea of a splash pad came from staff as a less expensive alternative than an aquatic center for the time being. Iverson stated the Council's idea was to provide water for kids to play in. Klossner pointed out there is a limited age group splash pads would attract, preschool age up to perhaps 8 years of age. Fuhol added there are a lot of kids in the community that are in this age range. Lowman stated this would be a great attraction to draw in young kids and their families and there is nothing like this in Cambridge at the moment. Fuhol suggested if a splash pad was located close to a park with playground equipment, older kids could play in the park within sight of parents who need to stay close by their younger children in the splash pad.

Ziebarth then brought up the cost of a splash pad versus playground equipment. If the same funds are spent on upgrading playground equipment, there is the potential to appeal to a much larger range of age levels, including equipment geared to early childhood development (ages 2 to 5), school age children (ages 5 to 10), and on up to teenagers/adults.

Staff requested Westover to research costs of larger splash pad options, the cost of insurance for a splash pad compared to a playground, and location options based on space requirements. Westover stated Commissioner Wendorf suggested focusing on the City's acquiring of additional properties at east City Park (337 Fern St S) to allow for more land for parking and a possible splash pad there (Wendorf's written comments are provided for the record). Westover added Central Green and Sandquist Park would be good locations as well. Westover will provide information on possible locations based on playgrounds nearby and parking for increased traffic due to additional park use.

**Grants for 2017
(Concert Series, Movies in the Park, Painting in the Park)**

Westover stated staff will start seeking grant opportunities for a 2017 Summer Concert Series in City Park, Movies in the Park, and Painting in the Park. Westover stated staff would like the Commission's recommendation to move forward with seeking these grant options as there will likely be matching funds or a percentage of funds required by the City. Klossner moved, seconded by Lowman, to approve staff to move forward with seeking grant options including possible matching funds or a percentage of funds required by the City for future summer park activities. Motion passed 6/0.

Long Range Plan Update

Westover provided a copy of the 2015 Long Range Plan for the Parks Improvements Projects, stating many of the items have been completed and it is time to re-prioritize and set goals for the parks.

Completed Projects Include:

1. Two refrigerated ice rinks
2. Water Tower Park swing set
3. City Park Future Improvements
 - a. WPA walls
 - b. Picnic table with shelter
 - c. Overlook view lawn restoration
 - d. Public Restrooms
4. Second Tennis Court at Central Green *plus* four Pickleball Courts
5. Programs in City Park 2016 (will continue to seek grants for more programming)

Projects to Keep on Parks Improvement List:

1. Ice Rinks:
 - a. New boards for the second ice rink
 - b. Dome for ice rinks to shade sun from ice
2. City Park Improvements:
 - a. Parking Lot – 26 stall lot (concept A)
 - b. Expanded play with shade canopies
 - c. Tot Lot
3. C-I Bike/Walk Trail Connection (between trail start and Goldenwood along Central Ave):
 - a. Paving, gravel, grading, clearing drainage
 - b. Easements
 - c. Engineering, legal, fiscal, permits
 - d. Road issues, discussion with townships, no formal process has begun with landowners.
4. Programs in City Park (keep on list annually):
 - a. Outdoor Movie Theater System
 - b. Partner with Community Ed programs
 - c. DNR programs
 - d. Partner with schools
5. Boiling Springs Trail
 - a. Potential funding/grant needed for river bank restoration and snowmobile trail/bridge restoration – cost undetermined at this point
6. Pioneer Park
 - a. Disc Golf
 - b. Pickleball Court
 - c. Small Play Equipment
 - d. New Parking Lot/Parking Issues
7. Brown Park Facility Plan
 - a. Half Basketball Court
 - b. Tennis Court
 - c. Other
8. Sandquist Park:
 - a. Softball Field

- b. Baseball Field
- c. Tennis Court
- d. Pickleball Court
- Additional Request:*
- e. Youth Football League Field needed as they have 40 additional players and need more fields

Westover and the Commissioners discussed each of these items. Fuhol suggested looking into the concept of parks offering rental options of amenities such as canoes, kayaks, bicycles, Cross Country skis, etc., right at the entrance to the park as a great way to get the community active and out exploring parks, rivers and trails, providing a way to try the equipment before making a decision to purchase their own equipment. Westover stated at a recent Community Education meeting, the possibility of providing fat tire bikes for rental for use on the bike trails was discussed.

Ziebarth suggested considering constructing "multipurpose fields" designed for a variety of activities on the same field, such as lacrosse (a fast growing trend), soccer, and football, etc., and which allows the space to be used year round.

Westover stated she will update the 2015 Priority Ranking and Timeline for Parks Improvement list, research costs for rink dome covers and rink boards, multipurpose field, and splash pad, will list them in no particular order and bring the list back to the Parks Commission to reprioritize at a future meeting.

Klossner commented on the Parks priority list and wanted to say thank you to all the City workers. She has been very, very impressed with work that is done and the fact the Parks Commission has been able to check off so many projects in such a short amount of time has been fabulous. Klossner continued, stating the improvements in City Park have been great, everyone from the City has been doing a really great job, and wanted to express her recognition of a job well done.

Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission Project Updates:

City Park Overlook-Erosion Control

Westover pointed out the City Park overlook is now completed and a new path has been created through the trees heading north to the parking lot area. The path has been cleared and recycled fiber plastic timber stairs have been installed. Westover stated a sign has been installed directing people to the new stairway path.

WPA Wall Repair

Westover stated the Works Progress Administration (WPA) wall project at City Park has been completed.

Tennis Court/Pickleball Update

Westover explained two tennis courts and four pickleball courts have been completed and are scheduled to be coated and striped within the next week.

Tennis Court Maintenance (Honeysuckle and Pioneer Parks)

Westover added the existing tennis courts in Honeysuckle and Pioneer Parks are also scheduled to be coated and striped within the next week.

Restrooms and Fishing Pier at City Park (Legacy Grant)

Westover stated the restrooms and the fishing pier at City Park are now completed.

Park Programming/Concert Series in the Park

Westover explained some of the smaller things that were done, disc golf program and interaction with the Boy Scouts did not generate a lot of interest. Geocaching offered through Cambridge-Isanti Community Education had a little more success so this may be repeated next year. Westover stated they will focus on the movies, activities, and concert series in the park going forward.

Water Tower Park Swing Set

Westover stated this project has been completed in the park across for the library.

Ice Rinks

The ice rinks project is in progress and Westover announced volunteers are needed to help with this project. If anyone can help or knows of anyone who can help, please let Public Works know. The rinks are tentatively scheduled to be open by November 1, 2016.

Yoga in Central Green

Westover stated Yoga in Central Green was very successful, with approximately 20 people attending each session. Westover will apply for grants for next summer to keep this option available to Cambridge citizens.

OTHER BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS

City Council Update

There were no Council updates.

Commissioner Concerns

Ziebarth reported hearing positive comments regarding the improvements in City Park this year. Ideas have been discussed for the past 10 years and nothing has really happened until this year. There is excitement in the community regarding the City Park improvements. Ziebarth stated a vision this community started in the 1990's has made City Park a safer, family friendly and much more usable space. Ziebarth added the City Council's commitment to upgrade the area around Heritage Greens with the tennis courts and the pickleball courts has really put the City in a good position for the next 10 to 15 years. Now the City has some recreational facilities that are within the budget and using grant monies and it is really nice to do some noticeable improvements to the community without raising

taxes. This builds a momentum that can continue with the bike trail improvements needed as well to connect the two communities of Isanti and Cambridge. Ziebarth stated it is nice to be able to provide amenities in the community.

ADJOURNMENT

Klossner moved, seconded by Lowman to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm. Motion carried 6/0.

Kelli Klossner
Cambridge Parks, Trails, and Recreation
Commission Chair

ATTEST:

Marcia Westover, City Planner

DRAFT

Item 4D-Long Range Plan

We are requesting that the Commission discuss and identify priorities for the long range plan. I have not yet received sufficient details to bring back information to you on splash parks. However, the splash parks can still be discussed and identified in the priority ranking. I do have information on the costs for a multi-use field in Sandquist Park as shown on the attached plan. I have adjusted the needs and removed items from the plan that were completed. The Commission can add and/or remove any items on this plan. The timeline and ranking can be adjusted as well.

Attachments

2016 Long Range Plan (Priority Ranking and Timeline for Parks Improvements)

2016 Priority Ranking and Timeline for Parks Improvements

As established by the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission

Rank	Improvement	Approximate Cost	Timeline
	Ice Rinks	\$125,000 - Boards for 2 nd rink \$585,000 - Dome cover (220' x 105')	1-2 years 5 years
	Splash Park	\$?	1-2 years
	City Park Future Improvements	\$120,000-Parking Lot- 26 stall lot (concept A) \$270,000-Parking Lot-60 stall lot (concept B) \$40,000-Expanded play w/shade canopies \$8,000-New picnic w/shelter \$10,000 - tot lot	2-8 years ongoing
	West Park, City Park	\$? Fat Tire Bike Trails	2-5 years
	C-I Bike/Walk trail connection	\$475,000-paving, gravel, grading, clearing, drainage \$100,000-easements \$125,000-engineering, legal, fiscal, permits TOTAL \$700,000	2-5 years
	Programs in City Park	City staff will be seeking grants for the following: -Summer Concert Series -Movies in the Park -Painting in the Park \$15,000 \$?- Partner with Community Ed Programs \$?-Rental Equipment program (canoes, kayaks, cross country skis, fat tire bikes, etc.)	Ongoing But we should identify a rank to show the importance of this in case we do not get grant money
	Boiling Springs Trail	Undetermined at this point. Potential funding/grant needed for river bank restoration and snowmobile trail/bridge restoration	2-5 years

	Pioneer Park	\$6,000-Disc Golf \$23,000-Pickleball court \$20,000-Small Play equipment \$? Parking Issues-new parking lot?	6 years
	Brown Park Facility Plan	\$13,000-1/2 basketball court \$45,000-Tennis Court \$? Other	6-7 years
	Sandquist Park	Multi-Use Field (Football, Soccer, Lacrosse, etc.) 200' x 300' field is planned and will cover the size of all 3 fields \$24,000 grading \$9,000 irrigation \$50,000 lighting (optional) \$200,000-Softball field \$230,000-Baseball field \$45,000-Tennis Court \$23,000-Pickleball court	1-2 years 6-10 years
11	Joe's Lake Preserve	? Develop Trails	5 years