

**Cambridge Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, August 13, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Cambridge Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission was held on Tuesday, August 13, 2019, at Cambridge City Hall Council Chambers, 300 3rd Avenue NE, Cambridge, Minnesota, 55008.

Members Present: Chairperson Mark Zeibarth, Vice Chair Marisa Harder-Chapman, Members Kriste Ericsson, Tom Koep, Council Appointee Mayor Jim Godfrey and Ex-Officio Member Barry Wendorf.

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Community Development Specialist Carri Levitski.

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

Zeibarth called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the Agenda**

Godfrey moved, seconded by Harder-Chapman, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

Godfrey moved, seconded by Ericsson to approve the July 9, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**New Business**

***Update Priority List***

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the priority list and what should be ultimately recommended by the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission.

Harder-Chapman moved, seconded by Koep to recommend approval of the following revisions to the Long-Range Plan/Priority List. Motion carried unanimously.

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Improvement</b>	<b>Approximate Cost</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
1	Programs in City Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer Concert Series</li> <li>• Movies in the Park</li> <li>• Activities in the Park</li> </ul> \$20,000/year	Annually
2	Spirit River Nature Area	Fat Tire Bike Trails	1-2 years
3	Library	Splash Park (60 x 90) Restroom/Shower/Changing Facility Total Cost – Approximately \$660,000	1-2 years

4	Parkwood Park	Benches \$1,500 Trees \$2,000 Fitness Equipment \$20,000 Wheelchair Swing \$2,000 Horseshoe Pits \$1,000 Shuffleboard \$3,200 Double Swing Set - \$2,100	1-2 years
5	Sandquist Park	Multi-Use Field (Football, Soccer, Lacrosse, etc.) 200' x 300' \$24,000 grading \$9,000 irrigation \$50,000 lighting (optional) Trees	Local Option Sales Tax
6	Central Green	Pickleball Courts \$80,000 Area Association to Raise Between \$12,000 & \$20,000	2020 Street Project??
7	Sandquist Park	\$200,000 – Softball field \$230,000 – Baseball field	5 years
8	C-I Bike/Walk Trail Connection	\$475,000 – paving, gravel, grading, clearing, drainage \$100,000 – easements \$125,000 – engineering, legal, fiscal, permits <b>Total - \$700,000</b>	Local Option Sales Tax
9	Ice Rinks	Dome cover (220' x 105') \$585,000	5 years
10	Pioneer Park	Small Play Equipment \$20,000	5 years
11	Boiling Springs Trail	Undetermined at this point. Potential funding/grant needed for river bank restoration and snowmobile trail/bridge restoration	5+ years
12	Joe's Lake Preserve	Develop Trails \$?	5+ years
13	City Park Future Improvements	\$270,000 – Parking Lot – 60 stall lot (concept B) \$? Acquisition of additional property on Fern Street \$40,000 – Expanded play w/shade canopies \$8,000 – New picnic w/shelter \$10,000 – tot lot	5+ years

### ***Splash Pad Update***

Levitski explained preliminary plans were provided by Water Odyssey to demonstrate a possible Splash Pad for residents. The renderings were presented on a board with facts, figures and questions for the public to answer at National Night Out on August 6.

Residents were asked to answer five questions on a sticky note, the questions and consolidated responses of 68 sticky notes are as follows:

1. Would you prefer 1 Larger Splash Pad or a few Smaller ones in different locations?  
- 9 Larger Splash Pad

- 61 NA

2. Which play features do you like best (based on provided images, see packet)  
The Rain Curtain, Under-Brella, Mushroom Maze, Water Cage, Water Flower and Just-A-Bucket were listed as the most desired features. (See Packet)
3. Is having a Splash Pad a high enough priority to spend \$660K?
  - 56 YES
  - 10 NO
  - 2 NA
4. Thoughts on the location? (the board indicated Central Green & the Library were locations already discussed.)
  - 47 NA
  - 8 Central Green Park
  - 7 New Library
  - 2 Pioneer Park
  - 1 AFRC
  - 1 Old Grandview Lot
  - 1 Any
5. Other Comments/Suggestions?
  - 6 YMCA
  - 5 Yes, we are tired of driving far away for splash parks
  - 4 Pool
  - 2 Splash pad and a pool would be better
  - 1 Coon Rapids has a great splash pad
  - 1 Cover the ice rinks and make a pool
  - 1 Get businesses or the school to co-sponsor
  - 1 Have teenagers volunteer and use the swim team for help
  - 1 No one will use it, don't raise taxes
  - 1 Recycle water from the lake and put it at Pioneer Park
  - 1 Too much money
  - 1 We need fun things like this for our families

Levitski reported, residents were asked while waiting in line for hot dogs, chips and root beer floats and many answered only 1 of the 5 questions. The board is being modified to solicit general feedback during Customer Appreciation Day in Downtown Cambridge on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

Overall the feedback was largely positive, with most responders finding the cost was worthwhile, however, some residents would still prefer a pool, YMCA or combination of all 3 to meet the needs of all age groups and to have something available year-round.

There was discussion as to which park the Commissioners would like to see The Splash Pad constructed. The two locations discussed was Central Greens or the new Library location. The

commission felt the Library location would be a safer location and have less vandalism. The Commission discussed concerns about traffic on 95 regards to pedestrian crossing. The Commissioners felt there is no way of getting around 95 traffic in Cambridge and compared it to having the railroad tracks running through town. Commissioners felt moving The Splash Pad to the north side of town would be beneficial, providing an amenity to the north and west side of town. The Commission concurred and ultimately had a consensus where they felt the Library location would be the best location for the splash pad. There were also inquiries as to whether the rest rooms can be included in the construction of the Library project. Staff will research this option.

### ***Summer Parks Program Update***

Levitski reviewed the staff report provided by Administrative Assistant Jennifer Cole. Levitski explained the 2019 Summer Parks Program was designed to engage with the community in a variety of ways. The program consisted of Concerts, Movies, Yoga, Arts and a Kids Program. Levitski reviewed each of the programs that were provided to the community which was outlined in the staff report. Commissioners discussed and commented very positively on the summer activities program. The Commission congratulation Ms. Cole on her hard work and successful season for parks programming.

### **Other Business/Miscellaneous**

#### ***City Council Update***

Godfrey updated the Commission on the last City Council meeting. Approved plans for library.

#### ***Commissioner Concerns***

Ericsson stated she stopped by the rain garden to take some pictures and commented on how beautiful it looked. She suggested having interpretive signage indicating what is the function of a rain garden.

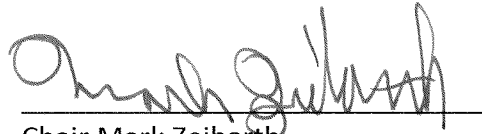
Levitski gave an update on filling the youth representative position for the Parks Commission. She stated she has been in contact with Cambridge-Isanti High School Principal Dr. Gibbs and they will be working on finding a new youth representative once school is back in session.

Levitski updated the Commission on the organization of a broomball league. Levitski stated she is still working on putting a league together, however, it has been very difficult secure officials.

Levitski updated the Commission on the Disc Golf League and stated the league will be wrapping up on August 19<sup>th</sup> and has been a very successful season.

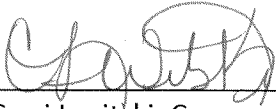
### **Adjournment**

Being no further business before the Cambridge Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission, Wendorf moved, seconded by Ericsson, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:12 pm. Motion carried unanimously.



Chair Mark Zeibarth  
Cambridge, Parks, Trails, and Recreation  
Commission Chair

ATTEST:



Carri Levitski, Community Development Specialist