

**MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
EDINA PARK BOARD
HELD AT CITY HALL
SEPTEMBER 8, 2015
7 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gieseke called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Answering roll call were Members Segreto, Greene, Good, Jacobson, Gieseke, Strother, Jones, and McCormick

Student Members present: Crist, Lohani

Absent: Members Nelson, Cella

Chair Gieseke introduced the new student members, Laura Crist and Anik Lohani. Both student members gave a brief introductory summary.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Member Greene made a motion, seconded by Member Jones, approving the meeting agenda.

Ayes: Members Segreto, Greene, Good, Jacobson, Gieseke, Strother, Jones, and McCormick.

Motion approved.

IV. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Member Jones made a motion, seconded by Member Good, approving the consent agenda as follows:

IV.A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Park Board Meeting of Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2015

Ayes: Members Segreto, Greene, Good, Jacobson, Gieseke, Strother, Jones, and McCormick.

Motion approved.

V. COMMUNITY COMMENT

Laura Kondrick, 6115 Lincoln Drive, expressed concerns to the Park Board regarding buckthorn invasion. She asked that a Park Board member contact her for further discussion.

Steve Sando, 5133 Juanita Avenue, asked the Park Board if a sketch has been done of the new bridge at Arden Park. Ms. Kattreh replied that is an Engineering Department project and she will check on it. Mr. Sando noted they will be having a beautiful bridge and the retaining wall on the north side is very crude and pointed out that will need to be addressed.

VI. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

VI.A. 2015 Park Board Work Plan Update

Ms. Kattreh provided an update on the 2015 Park Board Work Plan and provided a written copy of the Work Plan for Park Board review.

The 2015 Initiatives reviewed were:

- Inclusive playground equipment – Rosland Park
- Strategic planning with a comprehensive needs assessment

Member Jones asked if it has been approved by the City Council and Ms. Kattreh stated it has not and noted she would like to bring it back to the Park Board as information only. The content is basically the same.

- Fred Richards Park Master Plan

Member Jacobson asked how this consultant will be different from the last consultant that was used and asked what the difference is in scope. Ms. Kattreh stated the last project completed for Fred Richards was a vision plan. This next step would take the design to the next level and create a specific detailed plan using some of the vision plan concepts and added much more public input. Member Segreto asked how much the funding request was for this next step and Ms. Kattreh replied \$75,000 was requested. Member Segreto asked what was spent for the first concept plan to which Ms. Kattreh responded approximately \$25,000 - \$30,000. Member Greene asked when the funds would be earmarked and Ms. Kattreh replied it would be 2016 or 2017.

- Arneson Acres Park Master Plan

Member Greene asked Ms. Kattreh about the terms of the timeframe to which Ms. Kattreh replied she would like to review this annually. This would be a very high priority for parks that need master plans and staff is willing to fund a master plan from our operations budget.

- Cost Recovery Goals for Enterprise Facilities

This item will be brought before the Park Board before the end of the year. The Park Board will have significant input before it goes to the City Council. Member Greene asked which enterprise facilities their currently plans are for and Ms. Kattreh responded the Edina Art Center, Aquatic Center, Edinborough Park, Centennial Lakes Park, Braemar Golf Course, Braemar Arena and the Sports Dome.

- Braemar Master Plan

The concept has been approved for an 18-hole renovation.

- Fundraising for the Parks & Recreation Department

Nothing has been completed on this item thus far.

- Urban Forest Task Force Report

Member Segreto asked if it is staff's intent to move the fundraising efforts into 2016. Ms. Kattreh replied it certainly could if some members of the Park Board would be interested in taking it on. Chair Gieseke stated that can be part of the 2016 Work Plan discussion.

Member Segreto referred to the Urban Forest Task Force Report and pointed out her time on the Park Board is numbered as well as Member Jones and asked if anything is being done before they leave. Member Jones asked if there is another group currently working on this and Ms. Kattreh stated she will research and report back to the board. Chair Gieseke stated he would like to see something done in 2015. Member Segreto stated she would be happy to do some work on this but would need some direction. Ms. Kattreh pointed out there currently is no other group working on this. She noted it could be moved to 2016 until they are done and indicated she will obtain an update and inform the board of what the exact status is.

Ongoing Responsibilities

- Capital Improvement Plan
- Fees and Charges
- Election of Officers
- 2016 Park Board Work Plan
- Green Initiatives
- Donations and Policy Donations Brochure

Ongoing Initiatives:

- Edina Veteran’s Memorial
- Sports Dome, Outdoor Rink, Pamela Park Renovation

Other Work Plan Ideas Considered for Current Year or Future Years:

- Cooperative Agreement with School District for use, upgrade and maintenance of Creek Valley School Park athletic fields and Cornelia School Park athletic fields.
- Volunteer Collaboration with Community Education Services

VI.B. 2016 Park Board Work Plan

Chair Gieseke indicated at the Aug. 11 Park Board retreat, the board began discussing items to be included in the Park Board’s 2016 Work Plan. The Park Board Chair and Vice Chair have worked with staff to prepare a draft 2016 Work Plan based on those discussions. The board was asked to review the draft and be prepared to make any changes to the draft plan. The board was also asked to come to the meeting prepared to volunteer to work on and possibly take a leadership role in the completion of these projects. The work plan is due on Sept. 29, so the Park Board will not have another opportunity to discuss and review a revised version of the plan. The Park Board Chair and Vice Chair will present the Park Board Work Plan to the City Council at a work session on Tuesday, Oct. 6.

The 2016 Park Board Work Plan draft includes the following initiatives:

Inclusive Playground Equipment – Rosland Park - Member Nelson
 Fred Richards Park Master Plan - Members Greene, Jacobson and Good
 Park Signage Replacement Plan & Begin Implementation – Members Nelson and Strother
 Grandview Facility Planning – Members Jones, Jacobson and Good
 Recreational Programming Analysis – Members Good, Jones and Lohani
 Recreation Programming and Facilities Marketing and Communication Delivery Review – Members Strother and possibly Member Nelson
 Engage External Resources to Provide Environmental Programming – Members Segreto and Gieseke
 Edina To Go Application Utilization for Parks and Recreation – Members Jones and Crist

The Ongoing Responsibilities:

Capital Improvement Plan Review, Fees and Charges Review, Election of Officers and Work Plans

Other Work Plan Ideas Considered for Current Year or Future Years:

Cooperative Agreement with School District for use, upgrade and maintenance of Creek Valley School Park athletic fields and Cornelia School Park athletic fields
 Fundraising – Friends of the Parks
 Pollinator Garden – Park Property or Partnership with Edina Public Schools – Members Jones and Segreto

Member Jones proposed a multi-year playground renovation plan. The plan would create a schedule and a group would be needed to create the measurement factors. She is concerned about the ability to maintain the parks because there are at least 12 playgrounds needing replacement that are at least 18

years old. She would like this as a work plan idea for a working group and added priorities need to be aligned with the work plan. Member Strother stated she would like to help with that.

Chair Gieseke asked if there were any items that should not be included in the 2016 Work Plan. Member Strother asked if Edina To Go wouldn't be part of the Recreation Programming and Facilities Marketing and Communication Delivery because it seems like these two groups could be combined. Ms. Kattreh replied those could be combined and suggested "report a problem in parks" be added to the application.

Member Greene made a motion, seconded by Member Good, to approve the 2016 Work Plan with the changes indicated.

Ayes: Members Segreto, Greene, Good, Jacobson, Gieseke, Strother, Jones, and McCormick.
Motion approved.

VI.C. Park Board Retreat Review

Member McCormick reviewed what took place at Aug. 11 Park Board retreat. The notes from the retreat were provided for board review. The board was asked to review the notes and be prepared to discuss and recommend specific items for implementation.

VI.D. Bottled Water

Member Jones stated the Park Board is being asked to act on a motion to have the city no longer provide water bottles at Park Board meetings and workshops. The Park Board is also being asked to consider whether it should suggest to the Energy and Environment Commission to consider adding the creation of a bottled water policy for Edina's municipal buildings and city sponsored functions to their work plan. This could be a collaboration with the Park Board.

Member Jones noted one of the Park Board's six Guiding Principles is "Advance environmental stewardship and conservation to preserve and protect natural resources and build excellence through sustainability". She stated currently the City of Edina provides bottled water for the Park Board at the four meetings that are televised each year and at some workshops. She indicated not providing water bottles at Park Board meetings and workshops will not have a significant impact on the environment, or the park budget, but it will reduce waste and cost. The approval of these motions should raise awareness and inspire further environmental stewardship through potential further action. Park Board approval of these motions will also enable Park Board members and staff to model economic and environmentally sustainable behavior. She added that it will also show that Edina's tap water is perfectly fine.

This proposal is not aimed at preventing people from bringing their own bottled water to meetings. However, Park Board members are encouraged to bring their own refillable water bottles to meetings if water is desired. If feasible, a pitcher of water and glasses could be made available.

Member Jones made a motion, seconded by Member Greene, that the City of Edina no longer provides the Park Board with bottled water at their meetings.

Further discussion prior to vote – Member Segreto challenged other boards and commissions within the city to do the same because it is the right thing to do. She supports not using these bottles any longer. Ms. Kattreh stated she would like to provide reusable water bottles to the Park Board. Chair Gieseke stated that would be suitable.

Ayes: Members Segreto, Greene, Good, Jacobson, Gieseke, Strother, Jones, and McCormick.
Motion approved.

Member Jones made a motion, seconded by Member Segreto, to suggest to the Energy and Environment Commission that they consider collaborating with the Park Board on a water bottle policy for the entire city.

Further discussion prior to vote – Member Good asked for clarification on the motion. Member Jones stated she is not certain to the route to take this. Chair Gieseke asked if the City Council should be told about this. Ms. Kattreh stated the Park Board could take this as an initiative. Chair Gieseke asked if the board were overstepping their boundaries by suggesting this to which Ms. Kattreh replied she will work with the staff liaison.

Ayes: Members Segreto, Greene, Good, Jacobson, Gieseke, Strother, Jones, and McCormick.
Motion approved.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

VII.A. Council Updates

Ms. Kattreh provided City Council updates from the Aug. 18, 2015 and Sept. 1, 2015 City Council meetings.

VII.B. Other Correspondence

None.

VIII. CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Member Good indicated he is somewhat confused about how the Park Board and the Parks Maintenance Department converge and wondered if there were a way to outline what is happening and get a better understanding of what each group is doing. Ms. Kattreh stated she can provide a Parks Maintenance update occasionally including projects planned or input desired from the Park Board. Member Segreto asked if that could be put on the website to which Ms. Kattreh replied she is hesitant to put too much on the website because of staff time needed to keep information up-to-date.

Member Good indicated that he watched the City Council meeting when they discussed the West Shore Drive land swap and he was a little disappointed to hear the council say that the Park Board and Planning Commission couldn't come up with any recommendation. He asked as a Park Board when they are reviewing those things are they giving proper advice to the council or are they not being clear enough with their feedback. Chair Gieseke replied he agrees and thinks they make a significant effort to give the best advice they possibly can and try to make it solidified and without conflict on some items. He pointed out on this issue there was very little agreement amongst the Park Board, Planning Commission, City Council and staff; it was all over the board. He noted that it came down to they are going to leave it as a variance and go in front of the Planning Commission again.

Member Good stated maybe they could have said something like we don't have a resolution but we would strongly recommend you don't do the land swap. Chair Gieseke responded that is not their field of expertise so he didn't want to voice it too loud and start picking things because they are not the Planning Commission and that is where it belongs. Member Good agreed and noted that he thinks the thing for them to do in the future is ask what they have to offer and make sure they offer that strongly in their voice.

IX. STAFF COMMENTS

Ms. Kattreh went through her staff comments and updates.

The Braemar project is 60% complete right now. Member Jones stated she noticed the Braemar Park project is not part of the Park Board's work plan. Ms. Kattreh stated the Braemar Park Master Plan may be moved to 2017.

The City of Edina and City of St. Louis Park received some revisions to the purchase agreement with regard to Weber Woods. The City Attorney has some concerns with the revision. The response will go back to the City of Minneapolis after all reviews have taken place.

Ms. Faus gave an update on the Promenade Phase IV and noted it is 98% complete. She indicated the grand opening has been scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2015 starting at 5 p.m.

Ms. Faus informed the Park Board that the Pamela Park project is 98% complete. There are a couple items still on the punch list. She noted the grand opening is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015 starting at 5 p.m.

Ms. Faus informed the Park Board the new recreation software is fully operational and the first round of online registrations has been completed.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Gieseke made a motion, seconded by Member Good, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Segreto, Greene, Good, Jacobson, Gieseke, Strother, Jones and McCormick.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.