

**MINUTES
OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE
EDINA CITY COUNCIL
HELD AT CITY HALL
AUGUST 4, 2014
5:00 P.M.**

Acting Mayor Swenson called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. in the Community Room of City Hall.

ROLLCALL

Answering rollcall were Members Bennett, Brindle and Acting Mayor Swenson. Mayor Hovland entered the meeting at 5:05 p.m. Member Sprague entered the meeting at 5:16 p.m.

Staff attending the meeting included: Lindy Crawford, City Management Fellow; Ann Kattreh, Park & Recreation Director; Karen Kurt, Assistant City Manager; Debra Mangan, City Clerk; Chad Millner, Engineering Director; Scott Neal, City Manager; and Bill Neuendorf, Economic Development Manager. Also in attendance were consultants, Jeff and Kathy Schoenbauer.

Acting Mayor Swenson noted the purpose of the work session was to receive an update on the Fred Richards Redesign process and to hold a joint work session with the Human Rights and Relations Commission.

FRED RICHARDS REDESIGN

Director Kattreh and the Schoenbauers presented a report on the Fred Richards Repurpose process, reviewing the steps in the process and an overall schedule. They reviewed what has taken place to date and the schedule culminating in City Council review and approval in the fall of 2014. The common themes from work with the Park Board and public meetings were shared and a conceptual master plan was presented. The plan included "passive" and "active" zones, with meandering hills, wetlands, and mature trees of all types. The plan also included a walking loop that might offer many different activities along the route, from picnic areas, to grassy play areas, bird watching/nature areas, and reflection/seating areas. The active zones were shown on the east end, closer to parking and concessions/park shelter building, and would consist of playgrounds, adventure zones for older kids, and athletic fields for soccer, lacrosse and other emerging sports. The northern section (currently known as Lake Edina Park) was depicted as an urban farm area, but after talking through the potential intensity of that use, and the parking needed to support it, the consensus was to keep that area more passive recreational field space. There was also discussion of making sure that playgrounds moved further north to provide more immediate access to neighborhood children in the Parkland and Cornelia neighborhoods. Finally, the regional trail would wind its way along the southern edge of the parkland as imagined, and then go north and east towards Parklawn. Council gave feedback relating to various components of the repurposed design.

JOINT SESSION EDINA HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION

Human Rights & Relations Commission members attending the meeting were: Patricia Arsenault, Arnie Bigbee, John Cashmore, Laura Davis, Derek Carter, Ellen Kennedy, Tiffany Sanders, Steve Winnik and Chair Jan Seidman.

2014 Work Plan Progress

Commissioners presented the Bias Offense Response and Prevention Plan. The Council and Commission discussed the draft plan. Council directed the Commission to further refine the draft and bring it back for consideration.

Also presented were the proposed Community Conversations and Special Needs Awareness. It was noted this was the 25th anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act and this would be highlighted during the coming year.

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New Initiatives

The Commission reviewed their proposed new initiatives including: Tolerance in Motion, Black History Month, Human Rights City, Monthly City Blog and Status Inquiry: Affordable Housing.

2013-14 Work Plan Review

Events and work completed by the Commission included: HRRC participation in the Quasquicentennial, December 2013, Anti-Bullying: Edina Reads with children's author Nancy Carlson, February 2014, Days of Remembrance/Genocide Awareness Events, April 2014, Tom Oye Award received by Kristin Aarsvold, Park & Recreation Supervisor and Edina Police Detective Tom McKenzie, and the PSA announcement with Gene Sylvester and their work on immigration reform.

There being no further business, Mayor Hovland adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Minutes approved by Edina City Council, August 19, 2014

Debra A. Mangen, City Clerk

James B. Hovland, Mayor