

Approved Minutes
WYOMING PARK & RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
MAY 2, 2016
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Liljedahl called the Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Park & Recreation Board for May 2, 2016 to order at 6:00PM

CALL OF ROLL:

On a Call of the Roll the following members of the Wyoming Park & Recreation Board were present: Members Tammy Liljedahl, Roger Elmore, Bob Beynon, Eileen Connors, Kevin Teel, Claire Luger, Park Board Liaison

Also Present: Dave Torma, Scout Andrew Haines, Paul Hoppe – Director of Public Safety

ABSENT: Diane Krinkie, Administrative Assistant

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

Chair Liljedahl determined a Quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER ELMORE, SECONDED BY MEMBER CONNORS TO APPROVE THE PARK & RECREATION MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 4, 2016 MEETING AS PRESENTED.

Voting Aye: Liljedahl, Elmore, Beynon, Connors, Teel

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

PRESENTATIONS: NONE

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING: NONE

LIBERTY PONDS DISCUSSION:

Chair Liljedahl welcomed everyone and asked anyone wanting to address the Park Board to please limit comments to two minutes to give everyone the opportunity to speak.

Jody Galman – 24363 Holm Oak Avenue – *Explained that the concern the residents have is that the Park Board has not sought input from the residents in the development regarding the proposed Liberty Ponds Park. Being the park is in the preliminary stages, the residents would like to have input as to what will be in the park and asked what the future plans are for the park once the cleanup and landscaping are completed.*

Member Elmore *provided the residents with the background of the Liberty Ponds area. He explained when the property was sold and the development started the developer opted not to put a developers park in the development instead he dedicated property and provided funds to the Park Board. To date, the only plans for the park are to clean up and landscape the area with the help of the Fire Relief Association. This park was never intended to be a recreational park. He explained additional ideas for the park are to add a picnic shelter that would be available for families to rent for graduation parties, family reunions etc. as gas, electric and water are already available at the site. However, there are no funds budgeted for any improvements at this time.*

Dave Torma explained that the Public Works department and the Fire Relief Association want to clean the area of brush and dead trees so the area can be added to the weekly mowing schedule to keep the area neat and maintained.

Member Benyon explained that plans are to eventually develop the park however, the Park Board has not had the opportunity to talk with the residents of Liberty Ponds to discuss options and hear what they would like to have at the park.

Jody Galman questioned why there has to be anything in that area and asked if it was in the plan to eventually develop a park.

Member Elmore clarified that per the developer's agreement with the city the property has always been designated as park property. The Park Board would certainly like to make it one of the flagship parks of the city.

Paul Hoppe – Public Safety Director stated that most of the parks in the city are neighborhood parks that serve the surrounding neighborhoods. The larger parks such as Goodview Park are used for community events due to the size of the park.

Jody Galman stated she spoke with City Administrator Craig Mattson and he mentioned that the Park Board will sometimes do a neighborhood survey to give residents the opportunity to provide their comments and suggestions.

Member Elmore reported that prior to future development of the park a survey would be given to residents for their input. He reiterated that at the present time the only plans for the park are to clean up and landscape the area to make it suitable for mowing and weed management.

A resident asked why the city does not move the outbuilding on the property.

Dave Torma stated that the city does not have plans to keep the storage building on the property long term but currently it allows public works to store city equipment inside.

Trevor Reynolds – 24520 Holm Oak Avenue - asked how many trees will be taken down during the cleanup process.

Dave Torma explained that there are about four trees that will be taken down and several spruce trees have dead branches that will be trimmed. There are no plans in place to remove any of the large trees.

Danielle Grose-Haider – 24505 Holm Oak Avenue – Stated she attended the previous Park Board meeting and believes there seems to be some changes made to the plans for the park. She said at the previous meeting there was talk about a picnic shelter and parking lot in the flat area next to the house and asked the Park Board to address those items. Also, there is no master plan for the park so why all the cleanup?

Dave Torma explained the Park Board has discussed ideas for the park and will be scheduling a park tour to visit the parks to get better look at the park. There are no plans to include tennis courts, playground area, or a parking lot for this park. Dave further explained there is an area of the park that is too low and is considered unbuildable.

Residents expressed their concerns regarding the safety on Heath Avenue and speed limit signs.

Police Chief Hoppe explained that the Police Department will be placing the "Speed Trailer" on Heath Avenue in June to collect speed and volume data. Once the information is collected the report will be placed on the city's website. Chief Hoppe reviewed the statistics from last years "Speed Trailer" report and explained the process for changing speed limits on the roads.

Mike Kohn – 24455 Holm Oak Avenue – asked prior to developing the park would it make sense to do a resident survey or are the plans to move forward with the original development plan. Would it be feasible to maintain the area around the shop and leave the rest of the area as is?

Matt Stabenow – 24442 Holm Oak Avenue – Explained that the parks he visited that have shelters, playgrounds most of these parks have the various components of a traditional park. His opinion would be to accumulate various pieces of those parks together in larger land sites.

Member Elmore reiterated that the land in Liberty Ponds is designated for park usage. The primary focus of the first phase is to clean up and landscape the area and place the “Liberty Ponds Park” signage at the area. Currently, there is no time frame to begin phase two however, prior to starting phase two sketch plans will be submitted and the Park Board will continue to keep residents included in the planning and development of the park.

Member Connors explained when she purchased her property she had the opportunity to purchase one acre behind her home that was either going to be a park or owned by her. After she had done research regarding the park and found out how much it would increase her property value she passed on the opportunity to purchase the one acre. It has been a park for the past twenty-four years and has not increased crime, and has been a great community additive.

After considerable discussion it was determined that prior to any further development after the completion of phase one (cleanup and landscaping) there will be further discussion between the Park Board and Liberty Ponds residents to determine how to proceed with future phases of the development.

PRESENTATIONS:

Andrew Haines – Eagle Scout Project

Scout Andrew Haines requested that the Park Board consider approving his proposed Eagle Scout project at Hawk Meadows. The project includes: renovation of the gazebo there are eleven spindles that have been damaged due to vandalism; add wood chips at the front of the trail and replace the missing fence rail and fence post if needed. He would also like to stain the gazebo and repair any wood duck houses that need repair. He thought it may be helpful to install a couple of “**No Motorized Vehicle**” signs near the ATV trails to keep them from using the walking trail at Hawk Meadows.

Dave Torma reported that the city has ordered the replacement spindles for the gazebo and will be installing them soon. Dave will provide a map of Hawk Meadows to Scout Haines that will show the parks parameters. Scout Haines and Dave will schedule a time to meet at Hawk Meadows to look at additional projects that may be added to his proposal to present to the Park Board.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER BEYNON, SECONDED BY MEMBER CONNERS TO SUPPORT THE HAWK MEADOWS EAGLE PROJECT OF SCOUT ANDREW HAINES.

Voting Aye: Liljedahl, Elmore, Beynon, Connors, Teel

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

Park Signage – Dave Torma reported that the logos for the signs arrived at MN State Industries on Thursday, April 28th they started cutting the signs on Friday, April 29th. Jim at MN State Industries will provide Diane with an update for delivery by Friday, May 6th.

Tree Replacement Fund – Member Elmore asked Ms. Luger to request clarification from the City Council as to how you apply for these funds and how they are used and who determines who receives them. Member Elmore provided the Board with the history of how the tree fund originated.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **City Park Tour Date**

Chair Liljedahl suggested that the park tour be postponed until fall. Ideas and suggestions for the parks could then be placed on the winter meeting agendas for further discussion and planning for 2017.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Liberty Ponds** – *It was determined this topic was covered in the prior discussion with residents.*

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.

NEXT MEETING
JUNE 6, 2016
6:00 PM