

**FINAL MINUTES**  
**WYOMING PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA**  
**SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**  
**7:00PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

*Chair Spangler called the Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Park Advisory Commission for September 14, 2020 to order at 7:00PM*

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Park Advisory Commission met via electronic means.*

**CALL OF ROLL:**

*On a Call of the Roll the following members of the Wyoming Park Advisory Commission were present:  
Members Amy Buccanero, Barb Williams, Bruce Spangler, Bret Ohnstad, and Claire Luger, Council Liaison*

*Absent: NONE*

*Also Present: Kelly Dumais, Assistant City Administrator and Chuck Almhjeld, Public Works Superintendent;  
and Mayor Iverson*

*Visitors: Jackie Anderson, Board member Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District; Emily Heinz,  
Watershed Technician; Meghan Funke, District Engineer*

**DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:**

Chair Spangler determined a Quorum was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**OPEN FORUM: NONE**

**CONSENT AGENDA: NONE**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER ONSTAD, SECONDED BY MEMBER WILLIAMS,  
TO APPROVE THE PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST  
3, 2020 MEETING.**

*Roll Call Vote:*

*Voting Aye: Ohnstad, Spangler, Williams, and Buccanero*

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

**OLD BUSINESS:**

2. Lions Park Memorial

Commissioner Ohnstad stated that he had spoken Alan Geisenkotter, Sr. regarding the memorial for his son. He stated that they discussed what Mr. Geisenkotter felt was important and based on their conversation, he wrote up the following for inclusion on the plaque: "This tree is dedicated to the memory of Little Allan Geisenkotter, who in his short life gave all he could to others and much like this tree will give up its fruit, may he continue to give to others through the State Statute that bears his

name, Little Alan's Law." He noted that Mr. Geisenkotter liked this language, but told him he needed to run it by his wife. He noted that he has reached out to him a few times, but has not been able to touch base with him.

Chair Spangler stated that he feels the suggested language may be a bit wordy for a plaque and suggested it may be a good idea to have a shorter version for the plaque and include the longer version on a certificate or at some type of presentation when the memorial is put in.

Commissioner Ohnstad stated that as he read it aloud to the Commission, he was thinking the same thing.

The PAC discussed options installation and stone options. They discussed alternative phrasing and ways to contact the family.

After discussion, the Park Advisory Commission agreed to not include language regarding the law on the plaque, but speak about it when this is presented in public. They discussed not moving forward without talking to the family again and directed City staff to write a letter to the family asking for feedback on the proposed language.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER SPANGLER, SECONDED BY MEMBER BUCCANERO, TO TABLE DISCUSSION REGARDING THE LIONS PARK MEMORIAL TO THE OCTOBER 5, 2020 MEETING.**

*Roll Call Vote:*

*Voting Aye: Ohnstad, Spangler, Williams, and Buccanero*

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

3. Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District Discussion

Assistant City Administrator Dumais introduced Jackie Anderson, Boardmember, Emily Heinz, Watershed Technician, and Meghan Funke, District Engineer from the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District.

The representatives of the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District gave a presentation regarding the Watershed's plans to protect natural habitats and natural features with greenway corridors. They discussed the tax forfeit land within the District that has had a lowering of the water level and their plans for this property. They noted that the project modeling show that this would result in 54 pounds per year in a reduction of phosphorus to Comfort Lake in order to help bring the lake back into chemical balance. They noted that there will be public input meetings for residents to express their opinion once they are further into the design process.

Ms. Anderson stated that they are asking the City to partner with the Watershed District and wanted to ask if the City had interest in incorporating some of the City's goals for their natural parks into the Watershed plans. She noted that she has had informal discussions with City Administrator Linwood and Zoning Administrator Weck and after they informed the Council of their plans, they were asked to come present this information to the PAC.

Mayor Iverson noted that not every resident in the City has the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed levy on their tax bill. She asked how this funding was figured out every year and what does it go to and asked if they would be asking the City for any additional funding for this project.

Ms. Anderson stated that they do an ad valorem tax because everything is interconnected and reviewed the hydrologic boundary of the Watershed District. She stated that if there are any costs, it should be minimal to the City. She stated that their goal right now is to find out the City's goals for the natural

park area. She stated that they are planning to look for grants and other funding options and are not just looking to get excess money from the cities which they think of as their partners.

Ms. Heinz explained that they were not looking for action from the PAC tonight and just wanted to provide an introduction to their project.

#### 4. Grange Proposal

Commissioner Ohnstad stated that the Grange would like to discuss a project that would go across the parks to explore some historic City references and displays. He stated that because it is still in the early planning stages, they are not yet ready to provide a presentation as they had planned. He suggested tabling this item until they are able to gather more information for a more detailed presentation.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER SPANGLER, SECONDED BY MEMBER BUCCANERO, TO TABLE DISCUSSION OF THE GRANGE PROPOSAL UNTIL A FUTURE MEETING.**

*Voting Aye: Ohnstad, Spangler, Williams, and Buccanero*

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

#### 5. Tree Board Update

Assistant City Administrator Dumais noted that some pictures had been included in the packet of some new tree plantings at Comfort Park.

Public Works Superintendent Almhjeld explained that they went ahead and put the trees in Comfort Park so the frisbee golf players would not interfere in the neighboring yard. He stated that it was much cheaper than a fence and looks good and the neighbor has volunteered to help water the trees. He stated that they had also sent out letters to residents regarding cutting some oak trees in the City that are in the right-of-way areas and noted that they will also be removing the stumps as they move ahead.

### COMMUNICATIONS:

#### 6. Railroad Park Public Engagement Update

Assistant City Administrator Dumais stated that the process has begun for garnering community engagement on the draft Railroad Park master plan. She stated that the plan has been posted on the City's social media pages and staff have also ordered a sign for the park that will show the proposed plan and directs people to the survey in order to give their feedback.

#### 7. Swenson Park Update

Assistant City Administrator Dumais stated that the City received communications from the DNR regarding the grant for Swenson Park. She stated that because of COVID-19, the offices that are necessary for final approval, have been closed until 2021. She stated that this will put this project in a bit of limbo.

### ADJOURN

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY MEMBER OHNSTAD, TO ADJOURN THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 MEETING OF THE WYOMING, PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION AT 8:10 PM**

*Roll Call Vote:*

*Voting Aye: Ohnstad, Spangler, Williams, and Buccanero*

*Voting Nay: None*

*Abstain: None*

**NEXT MEETING:**

**October 5, 2020**

**7:00PM**