

**City of Minnetonka Beach
Park Commission Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2018**

Members Present: Vice Chair: Patty Rezabek; Commissioners: Joe Pagano, Gerry Boschwitz, Betsy Taylor, Chris Dovolis
Absent: Chair Dan Forbes, Diane Rogers
Staff Present: City Clerk Heidi Honey
Council Liaison: Paul Kozloski

Rezabek called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

1. Minnetonka Beach Business
 - 1.1. Approve the March 6, 2018 Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Boschwitz and seconded by Commissioner Pagano to approve the March 6, 2018 meeting agenda. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

- 1.2. Approve Minutes
 - 1.2.1. January 2, 2018 Park Commission Meeting Minutes
Dovolis confirmed that he did not attend the last meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pagano and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the January 2, 2018 meeting minutes as amended. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

- 1.3. Annual Rules of Procedure
Honey stated that the Rules reflect the change that the commissioners agreed upon at the last meeting. The time was changed from 7:00 pm to “a time established by the Chair”. This is consistent with other commissions Rules of Procedure language and reflects the new 5:00 pm meeting time.

A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Boschwitz to adopt the Park Commission Rules of Procedure with the change of removing meeting at 7:00pm to “a time established by the Chair”. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

- 1.4. The Garden Gate Contract – Jenny Thurk
Taylor researched last year’s gardener activity and determined more accountability is needed. The updated contract states that the gardener comes one day per week and checks in with city staff. Taylor will walk the city with Jenny Thurk in April. Taylor will be the primary contact and they will be in communication on a regular basis. Thurk recommended an irrigation system at City Hall. Parks discussed an irrigation system late last year and hoped to have the funds to install one this year or budget it for 2019. Thurk stated that many things around City Hall have died because they aren’t watered as much as needed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Boschwitz to approve the 2018 Garden Gate Contract and recommend Council approve it at the March 12, 2018 meeting. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

- 1.5. Life’s a Beach Contract – Josh Leddy

Boschwitz will have a bid from Josh Leddy next week. They discussed pulling weeds in the water this year. If they do that, Lake Restoration will not put chemicals in the water. Leddy doesn't think the weeds will be as heavy this year due to the large amounts of snow and late ice out. The contract will have a few options. The focus will be on the swim beach area with the outlying areas weeded less often. Pagano asked that he also give a bid for focusing only on the swim area but going out into the water. Rezabek would also like the entire area cleaned, preferably on Mondays. Pagano will check with Brian Berent to see if they can dump the weed compost again this year. Commissioners discussed hopefully being able to get more weeding for the same price if the city is willing to allow them to dump the weeds. Boschwitz will have a contract ready for the May meeting.

2. Park Commission Business

2.1. Protect

2.1.1. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

Rezabek stated that Arborist Eric Paulsen recommended additional ash trees for future removal. The cost for treating valuable ash this year is \$6,494 and will be done in the spring.

2.1.2. Garlic Mustard Schedule

Rezabek stated that Arcola Woods and Ray Peters Park have problems with garlic mustard. Prairie Restoration treats for buckthorn and garlic mustard. Rezabek will do a walk through and determine treatment locations for this fall. Garlic mustard can also be pulled to eliminate it.

2.1.3. Crabapple Spray Schedule

Rezabek stated that Bartlett will do fungal treatments on crabapples for \$402 and it will be completed in April. Bartlett offers the same price to residents as the city for services.

2.1.4. Ray Peters Park Alcohol Use/Parking/Hill Road Parking/Keypad Entry

Rezabek stated that alcohol use and parking issues have been reported at Ray Peters Park. This is a problem that has resurfaced over the years. Rezabek stated that it has been suggested to have restricted parking on Hill Road. Honey stated that Hill Road is currently no parking. Honey included in the packet a map of the city which shows the streets that are permit parking and those that are no parking. Some are not signed very well. She went on to say that the police are responding to calls and also routinely patrol the park.

A keypad was suggested to enable the warming house to be locked and the code would be given to residents. Berent priced out keypad locks and they are approximately \$100. Commissioners discussed that residents may be the ones using alcohol and this wouldn't eliminate the problem. Commissioners discussed that this may be a situation where they are trying to solve a problem that really isn't that large. They don't have data on the number of calls. Many residents may be inconvenienced by needing to remember to get the code. Taylor will check with Civic about their feelings on locking the warming house and if they think there are problems and report back in May.

2.1.5. Library – Maintenance Updates (Electric/Foundation/Maintenance)

Pagano said there is a crack in the foundation which has been there many years. After spring thaw, he and Berent will do an evaluation. They will have to get contractor bids and Pagano will report back later. The library is considered a historical site for the city. Rezabek asked if they could research a grant to do the library. They can consider that after the evaluation in the spring. Pagano will follow up with Berent about replacing windows, an electrical panel update bid, and building foundation repair. The switch inside the door does not appear to do anything. The clock does not work. The lights can be turned on by a switch across the room.

2.2. Maintain

2.2.1. Tree Removals

Rezabek reported that two diseased elm trees were removed by St. Martins Church. Rezabek thought they were both on the church property but Berent checked and one was on city property.

She thinks the city should pay for removal of one of the trees. Commissioners agreed that if it was a city tree, the city should pay for removal of that tree. Rezabek will follow up with the church. Rezabek also reported on a large willow discussed in the past and she will follow up with the resident to discuss.

2.3. Improve

2.3.1. Shoreline Drive Crossing

Pagano stated that when the Park Commission received their presentation on the crossing, there was a path on the design. After that, the path was removed from the design but it may be added later. Boschwitz stated it will probably evolve as the area gets used. Parks had approved the general concept at the time but wanted additional information about the path to approve it. Kozloski thought that Planning or the Crossing Subcommittee would come back to Parks for their input. Rezabek will contact Jennifer Halverson to get an update of the design for Parks.

2.3.2. Tree Purchases – Rezabek Update

No trees have been purchased yet. Rogers will give an update at the May meeting.

2.3.3. Comprehensive Plan - Pagano

Pagano said that at the last meeting, former Mayor Bloom said they likely saved between \$30,000-50,000 over the last time the Comp Plan was updated by using volunteers, Met Council resources and staff for updates. Staff did a great job cleaning up the document. The Park Commission Mission Statement was incorporated into the Comp Plan. Pagano urged everyone to go on the city website to review the draft plan. There was discussion about Shoreline Drive being a scenic parkway. Connectivity was a theme in the previous plan. There is emphasis on maintaining a small town feel with peace and tranquility and protected lake views. It is a great collaboration between residents, city groups, staff, and Council. Honey added that City Administrator Griffin has done a great job formatting the changes and updating the document.

Rezabek thanked Pagano for his hard work and representing Parks so well.

Dovolis checked on a recycling container grant provided by the county. They don't provide for pickup. After discussing how trash and recycling is picked up at the parks, the commissioners determined these bins aren't needed. He also researched potential grants for planting trees. He was unable to find any yet that would pertain to the city but will pursue it further. Rezabek will share one she found with Dovolis.

Rezabek handed out a MN Dept. of Agriculture EAB Identification Workshop for anyone wanting to attend.

3. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Boschwitz and seconded by Commissioner Pagano to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

Vice Chair Rezabek adjourned the meeting at 6:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Honey, City Clerk