

**Tuesday, May 03, 2022, 5:15 PM**  
**CITY OF MINNETONKA BEACH**  
**PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Co-Chair Kim Petersen, Co-Chair Julia Sharma; Commissioners: Chris Dovolis, Curt Holt, and Lucian Panait, Patty Rezabek  
**Special Volunteer:** Joe Pagano  
**Absent:**  
**Staff Present:** City Clerk Jane Burgess  
**Council Liaison:** Tracey Breazeale  
**Guests:**

**Petersen and Sharma opened the meeting at 5:17 pm**

**1. Minnetonka Beach Business**

1.1. Approve Agenda – May 03, 2022

Pagano stated that he is presenting agenda item #2.1 Calendar Review not Sharma as was indicated on the agenda.

**Dovolis motion, Petersen second to approve the May 03, 2022, amended meeting agenda. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.**

1.2. Approve Minutes – April 5, 2022

Sharma stated that she did not say that she would find a SPOC assignment for Holt, Petersen did.

**Dovolis motion, Petersen second to approve the April 5, 2022, amended meeting minutes. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.**

**2. Administration**

**2.1 Calendar Review – JP**

Pagano's presentation focused on the month of May which he stated is the most exciting month of the year for Parks, and then moved to June as well. His highlights included Junior Civic cleanup day May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Swim Beach with donated donuts and water provided by the Navarre Lunds store. He invited all Park Commissioners to attend. He also stated that the results of the Hard Asset Inspection as part of the 5YP, which may be the most important document of the year, will be presented by Dovolis and Hilgers, and the start of the CIP process begins May 27<sup>th</sup> led by Sharma. SPOC assignments will begin review at the June meeting when Commissioner Sperduto begins attending meetings.

2.1.1 National Park Month is July

Pagano explained the summer events including the Civic Summer picnic, National Night Out, Monday Fundays, Soccer Nights in the Park will be tied together in an initiative known as Mayor Lindstrom's proclamation of Minnetonka Beach National Parks Month.

2.1.2 Hard Asset Inspection – CD

Dovolis presented results from the hard asset inspection he and Hilgers did. He presented items sorted by zone that were inspected and need attention, and some that are outside of the budget and are not on the CIP. Dovolis said and he will check into the Hennepin County Youth Sports Grant.

Items included in the Inspection List are:

Seal coating/painting basketball area at City Hall, \$3500. It was seal coated but it has flaked off. Needs an inch and a half of asphalt.

Rezabek stated that Hennepin County has grant money available for these types of things.

Dahl Library needs roof repair on the trail side. It should be done sooner to prevent water damage move to 2023.

Flagpole: Hilgers said it's in the 2023 City CIP. Cost 3-4,000. Location TBD but maybe at Abdo garden.

Swim Beach pavers need partial repair/regrading using existing pavers. \$3500 – CIP for 2023.

Various signs in the City that need work. The heritage entry welcome signs at east and west end of the Beach need work as they are rusting. Dovolis will get bids. Sharma suggested using metal signs created by Fast Signs whom Pagano has used. Pagano not sure if they can do specialty heritage signs like the ones in place. Pagano stated that the Lafayette Ridge marquee sign needs work as well as some timbers and the arch are rotting in various places. In 4-5 years, it will need replacement in 2028 at about \$6-7,000 he stated.

Holt and Sharma stated that the welcome sign on Old Beach Rd is very faded and looks bad. They discussed permanently removing this sign as Old Beach Rd has been closed off and is a cul de sac now, so it's really not needed.

They discussed that rip rap is needed at Arcola Docks, Dock 2, and refreshed at the swim beach. MCWD permit needed.

Dovolis stated that the City needs four new industrial trash cans that match to be included in 2023 for \$3600.

They discussed the possible purchase of a 1 hp motor, aqua thruster weed machine which would keep the swim beach clean of weeds. Lindstrom's and Dovolis' have one, they operate on timers, and Hilgers would like to see how they work. There is initial cost plus maintenance and electricity would be required. Rezabek stated that perhaps this purchase would qualify for the Hennepin County sports grant.

It doesn't take weeds from bottom of lake so weekly or so pulling of weeds would still be necessary. Petersen asked if there would be a liability issue with kids playing and swimming if they got hurt. Sharma said Parks would discuss this next month.

## **2.2 No Mow May – KP**

Petersen presented a conservation initiative that began in England and is good for early pollinators allowing grass to grow and not be mowed during the month of May. Many cities around the US are adopting No Mow May and Edina did so as well. Hilgers and Petersen suggested to do a trial in Lafayette Park and observe what is growing there and decide how to manage future participation in the program. Bee friendly pollinator yards and areas make a lot of sense Petersen stated.

Pagano said perimeter on north side of berm should be mowed to keep it sharp looking. Petersen agreed that area needs to look neat and tidy. Hilgers said kids play there, high grass brings in rodents, so they will look and see this year. Petersen said this can be a new addition to the turf restoration project.

## **2.3 Golf Cart Ordinance - JP**

Pagano stated City Council is considering permitting golf carts in the City as they are not allowed on city streets unless permitted. A subcommittee was formed consisting of Halverson, Arnold, and Pagano and they met with V. Sharma and Honey to review the revised ordinance draft and permitting process. He stated that there are a lot of moving parts and encouraged commissioners to voice their opinion at the May City Council Meeting's Public Input Session if they have a strong opinion about it. Pagano recommended that the Park Commission take a strong stand on keeping City Code Section 513 No. 9 active, that prohibits motorized recreational vehicles throughout the park system. Pagano added that if the ordinance is revoked then that section would be eliminated as well.

**Dovolis motion, Holt second to preserve wording that there are no motorized vehicles allowed on public property in the City as in City Code Section 513 No. 9. All ayes motion passes.**

Panait asked how is this enforced? Pagano said it's a residence compliance issue. Signs and City Code are good. Rezabek commented that she sees things that are unsafe.

**2.4 CIP Process Underway – June 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting with City Administrator Honey - JS**

Sharma stated that they will review her first attempt at the CIP. Highlights include and she stated:

Raised the dollar amount for EAB treatments to \$7200 bi-annually.

Added more money to remove and replace trees bi-annually.

Move the roof repair at Dahl Library from 2028 to 2023. Dovolis said he will get someone to look at it.

Replace 7 cedar benches in 2022 with yet to be determined vendor.

Removed 2 steel framed benches from the CIP as they don't need replacement in the near future.

Since the picnic tables were just refurbished by a resident volunteer, they can be moved to 2028 Pagano recommended.

Replacing skateboard ramps perhaps can that be eligible for grants. But if a sport court is installed then the ramps would be in the way Rezabek stated. They discussed moving skateboard ramps to Ray Peters and creating a proper area and surface for it. Hilgers stated that when the ramps are at City Hall playground people who don't live here use them too. Also, they discussed that the swing set at Ray Peters is old and out of code so maybe the ramps can go there. That swing set is not on the Design Plan or Comp Plan, but the skateboard ramps are. They decided to table the issue for now.

The warming house roof left it as \$4,000 in 2028.

Swim beach paver repair, now \$3500 for 2023.

Signs east and west entrance 1500 for two seems low so they changed it to \$3000 for two signs.

Rip rap repair 2024, 2026, 2028 and 2030. \$5750 for each of those four years for Arcola docks, Dock 2 and Swim Beach.

Restore the Shore: There is \$5,000 in 2023 and 2025. Petersen stated may need to move this out to 2025 and 2027 due to native pollinator shoreland plants there at public lake access sites. Sharma stated that rip rap done first, and then native plantings done which would push it out to later dates. Petersen stated she's working with Natural Shore Technologies and there might be Hennepin County grant money available too.

The Lafayette Ridge marquee sign is slated for 2027 at \$6,000.

Trash cans are slated for \$3600 in 2023.

Minnetonka Beach Welcome entrance sign already approved at \$6,000 for 2022.

Sharma will send out the revised CIP to commissioners so it can be voted on June 7<sup>th</sup> and approved at the June 13 City Council meeting.

**2.5 Status of Collaboration of Parks and Dock Committee - JP**

Nothing to add at this meeting.

### **3. Operations**

#### **3.1 Status of Tree Canopy Grant - PR**

Rezabek stated that the final orders are in process with Otten Bros and a pending order with Cross Nurseries. Planting is to be done by mid-June, final receipt and approval by City Council at their June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, and final report due to Hennepin County by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Rezabek is very confident that this will happen. Holt suggested planting 11 River Birches instead of 10. Pagano suggested planning be done sooner so that City Council approves grant money on June 13.

#### **3.2 Healthier Turf and Chemical Free Park System – KP**

Petersen stated that she and Hilgers have been working with Green Core Organics focusing on HMP, City Hall and LRHA Circle turf this spring, and the beach for fall when people are off it. Money is in the budget to improve these areas. Pagano asked for dates when treatment will be applied so he can alert LRHA. Hilgers will aerate the beach park as it is rock hard.

#### **3.3 City Planting Schedule – KP**

Petersen stated that today, Garden Gate started a new bed near Liza Crear Garden at City Hall and thinned plants from the old bed to the new bed. They are restoring Liza Crear Garden to her former beauty Petersen added. The dead Maple tree at City Hall is scheduled to be removed tomorrow before this garden planting. She said that other beds around the City and planter boxes will be worked on too.

Holt said that he priced out organic lawn care as they been doing this themselves at their home for over 20 years. He stated that unfortunately soybean meal is up 50% in price, and he said that sewer sludge from Milwaukee is only \$880 vs \$1600 for soybean meal and could be used at Lafayette Park. Holt said he is working on a master plan for Lafayette Park.

#### **3.4 Beach Cleaning – LP**

Panait stated that he is still negotiating with Life's A Beach as they wanted to part ways with the City as the \$3,000 budget is not in agreement with them. Waterfront Restoration seems more willing to work with the City. Hilgers asked if granular works and Breazeale said that needs DNR approval and said it does slow the weed growth. Petersen said that the Crystal Clear initiative using copper phosphate she thinks on Crystal Bay might work for Lafayette Bay.

#### **3.5 Jason Hilgers “punch list”**

Hilgers stated that everything on the hard asset tour he can do.

### **4. FYI's**

#### **4.1 5YP and Appendices on City website**

#### **4.2 Soccer Nights' Dates – LP**

They discussed having food trucks at Monday Fundays and at Soccer nights. Panait will work with Burgess to pick one day in each month of June, July and August for food trucks at soccer night events at Ray Peters Park.

#### **4.3 Spring Cleanup with Junior Civic on May 14<sup>th</sup> at Swim Beach 10-11:30 am – JP**

Pagano covered this earlier in the meeting.

### **5. Commissioner and Liaison Comments**

#### **5.1 Parks Historian – JP**

The Commission officially labeled Joe Pagano as the Park historian of Minnetonka Beach.

Holt presented a Google image of the main part of Lafayette Park and stated that in continuing to honor Mayor Lindstrom's Monarch Pledge as well develop the area along the trail there, wildflower native planting should take place soon as they take several years to come to fruition. He presented a planting plan for this area and asked if the commissioners are ok for him to work on a master planting plan. They agreed. View from road will be birches, multi pockets of color and swatches of natives. Sharma directed Holt to work on it and discuss it at next meeting.

**6. Closing Comments and Adjournment – Co-chairs Petersen and Sharma**

**Rezabek motion, Dovolis second to adjourn the May 03, 2022, Park Commission meeting. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.**

**The meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.**

**Public in attendance: Nell Mathews**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Jane Burgess, City Clerk**