

**City of Minnetonka Beach  
Park Commission Meeting Minutes  
July 9, 2019**

**Members Present:** Chair Joe Pagano; Commissioners: Dan Forbes, Harlan Lehman, Katie Norman, and Patty Rezabek  
**Absent:** Commissioner Chris Dovolis  
**Staff Present:** City Clerk Heidi Honey  
**Council Liaison:** Tracey Breazeale  
**Guests:** Mayor Jaci Lindstrom, resident Kim Peterson

Chair Pagano called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

**1. Administration**

1.1. Welcoming Comments

Pagano recognized Kim Peterson in attendance and stated she is interested in joining Parks. Her background is in design and she has done landscape design and installation over past 10-15 years as well as working in a commercial greenhouse. Pagano stated that the commission has been working on all of the 2019 planned activities as well as developing the Five-Year Plan. He reviewed photos of projects completed so far this year: Abdo Garden update, Dahl Library updates, benches and picnic tables refurbished, gardens cleaned up, access steps repaired, and trash can surrounds were stained.

1.2. Approve the July 9, 2019 Meeting Agenda

Pagano asked to move item 3.1 Review Budget to Date as item 2.1 with other items in that section to follow.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Rezabek and seconded by Commissioner Forbes to approve the July 9, 2019 meeting agenda as amended. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.**

1.3. Approve Minutes – June 4, 2019 Park Commission Meeting Minutes

Rezabek added clarifying comments to page 1. Forbes noted a typo on page 4.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Forbes and seconded by Commissioner Norman to approve the June 4, 2019 meeting minutes as amended. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.**

**2. 2019**

2.1. Review Budget to Date – 2019

Pagano reviewed the expenses to date and remaining budgeted items. There is \$3,495 remaining in the budget. He then discussed unbudgeted items that have come up: pine tree treatments, removal of two stumps, a new tree removal request in the park near Soukups, goose poop solutions, or applying additional funds towards the warming house or playground equipment.

**Forbes motion, Norman second to reallocate the remaining 2019 funds for: \$1,000 for potential goose problem solutions or additional beach cleaning, and \$1,500 for a future tree removal. All ayes, the motion passed.**

2.2. Review Administrative Calendar

2.2.1.5YP Content

Pagano reviewed the 2020-2024 Park Plan Synopsis which explains the basis and process for evaluating park assets and determining how to manage them. From that, commissioners discovered a number of things that need to be done, gaps in process and management of work, and determined a

process for implementation and ongoing maintenance of the revolving Five-Year Plan and park systems. Residents and even Park Commissioners were not aware of everything that the Park Commission is responsible for which includes administrative and operational tasks. Pagano then reviewed photos of assets in disrepair in the community. He then summarized that the process must be process driven, simplistic, foster communication between Parks, other committees, staff and residents, recruit dedicated commissioners, creating volunteerism opportunities for people who are unable to commit to a three-year term and be updated every two years. Pagano recommended dedicating the Five-Year Plan to Commissioner Gerry Boschwitz who was a big part of the inspiration to the development of the plan.

Commissioners agreed the proposed plan organizes the Park Commission more than it has ever been and it manages the operational and administrative obligations very well.

### 2.3. Review Operations Calendar

#### 2.3.1. Library Gutters/Expenses

Forbes reported library updates have been completed a little under budget. Rezabek will work with Avalon Johnson on her Gold Award Girl Scout project plan for the library.

#### 2.3.2. Warming House Updates

Forbes and Dovolis will inspect and get bids for the warming house updates. They will work with Civic Committee Chair Jillian Moriarty for Civic input.

#### 2.3.3. Pine Tree Treatment

Rezabek stated the process includes removing turf, aerating, applying amendments, fertilizing, and mulching. It is a process that is repeated every 4-5 years. She is waiting to get an additional bid.

#### 2.3.4. Tree Removal – 2320 Lafayette Road

The cost for removal was included in the budget to be spent in 2018.

#### 2.3.5. Swim Beach Geese Update

Norman provided an update on her research regarding the geese problem.

#### CURRENT GOOSE STRATEGY:

- Mylar strips on fish wire
- Artificial coyotes and owls, pinwheels
- Life's a Beach 3X week beach clean up
- New scoopers/gloves/waste bin for pick up is available at the beach for people to use

#### STEPS TAKEN IN JULY – Joe, Heidi or Katie have done the following:

- Talked with four past mayors about strategies during their tenure
- Data history on Minnetonka Beach and all surrounding beach closures due to E. coli (which shows very few closures)
- Emailing neighboring cities for their feedback/strategies
- Talking with city of Long Lake and Wayzata about their strategies
- Extensive research on the process involved in getting DNR permit to remove geese
- Discussion with Tom Keefe, the owner of the geese removal company

#### THE FUTURE PLAN:

- Create a task force of five people (including Katie)
- Set clear and reasonable expectations
- Explore all options in geese removal and deterrents (commercial grade wire, sprinklers, bombs, Dori poles, and the like)
- Create a geese control plan for the DNR (and our city)

Removal of geese requires a DNR permit, geese control plan, application process, open forum for community input, Council approval, and it is not feasible to complete this year. The task force will set expectations and explore additional options including lights, grasses and removal. Breazeale stated she had up to 200 geese at time in her yard and the commercial wire eliminated them. Life's a Beach is going to provide a bid to clean the beach an additional 2 days a week for the rest of the season. Forbes stated that the city has been aware of the problem and various methods have not worked. Commissioners appreciated Norman researching and finding potential solutions for residents.

**3. 2020 Budget**

3.1. Review 5YP Operations/Forecast Calendar

The Five-Year Plan Operations/Forecast Calendar in the packet has a draft budget. Pagano and Honey will adjust the figures to align accurately with 2018 spending. An updated draft budget will be sent out ahead of the August meeting so commissioners can make changes and approve it at the next meeting.

3.2. Additional Dahl Renovations - No additional renovations are necessary at this time

**4. Misc.**

4.1. Council meeting Update (7/8/2019)

4.1.1. Access Paths – Option 5 and Option 6 – no discussion

4.1.2. July 8, 2019 Council Update

Pagano stated that Council discussed a trail location at either the south side or the north side a driveway to connect Arcola Lane and the Dakota Trail. Once Council determines the location of the trail, Parks can provide input via Liaison Breazeale.

The annual resident summer picnic is July 14. Life's a Beach is cleaning on Saturday. Several council members will help clean up the beach Sunday morning at 8:00 am and park commissioners are encouraged to help.

Forbes, Honey and Breazeale cannot attend the August meeting. Lindstrom suggested before and after photos of parks improvements in the Beachcomber.

**5. Adjournment**

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

Chair Pagano adjourned the meeting at 6:44 pm.

Signed the sheet: none

Next meeting: August 6, 2019 at 5:15 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Heidi Honey, City Clerk**