

**City of Minnetonka Beach
Park Commission Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2018**

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

Forbes called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

1. Minnetonka Beach Business

1.1. Approve the August 7, 2018 Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Boschwitz and seconded by Commissioner Rogers to approve the August 7, 2018 meeting agenda. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

1.2. Approve Minutes – June 5, 2018 Park Commission Meeting Minutes

Tom Seuntjens notes from the June Park Commission meeting were filed with the meeting packet and also filed separately.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pagano and seconded by Commissioner Rogers to approve the June 5, 2018 meeting minutes. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

1.3. Chair and Vice Chair Nominations

Pagano and Boschwitz are interested in leadership roles and would like to approach the division of responsibilities as co-chairs. They will report back at the next meeting as to who would like to formally fill the role as Chair and as Vice Chair.

1.4. Commissioner Re-appointments

Commissioner Rogers and Vice Chair Rezabek asked to be re-appointed. The appointments will be approved by Council at their August meeting.

1.5. Expenses to Date

Forbes gave a mid-year report to Council at their July meeting and spending is on track for the year.

2. Park Commission Business

2.1. Eagle Scout Project – Sean Woerner

For an Eagle Scout project, Woerner wants to make two benches out of hockey sticks and a fire pit for Ray Peters Park near the rink and parking lot. The city does not allow recreational fires on city property. Other safety concerns were discussed. Forbes suggested that Woerner research solutions to the concerns and speak with Public Works Superintendent Berent about the proposed location prior to this going to Council. Forbes suggested that he can either come back with a new fire pit design to address concerns, or possibly work with the fire department on provisions needed. Woerner offered to forfeit the fire pit idea and instead build two benches and ice skate walkers for beginning skaters. Commissioners strongly supported this idea. Commissioners liked the firepit idea and may consider it in the future. Woerner will talk with Berent about the proposed location. Kozloski offered to mentor him through the process.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rogers and seconded by Commissioner Dovolis to recommend the plan of the two benches and skate walkers for approval from Council. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

2.2. Maintain

2.2.1. Beach Cleaning Contract Update

Rezabek stated that they have not found signs of geese nesting. The dogs, pinwheels and fishing line were installed and geese haven't been back. Rezabek will move the fishing line out from the corner where the dock meets the grass because people are cutting the corners and may trip on it.

Boschwitz thinks they can plan for a similar contract with Life's a Beach next year.

2.2.2. Garden Gate Contract Update

Forbes stated that Taylor is pleased with the gardener. New estimates for maintaining the library and two Northview Road wall gardens are \$2,029. Rogers suggested hiring a teen to do weeding. Commissioners agreed that these areas look really bad and need to be maintained. They asked that Commissioner Taylor get a definition of maintenance listed on this bid to make sure it includes all services needed and to ensure the west Northview garden referenced as 3104 Northview includes the entire length of the garden. Forbes will contact her.

2.2.3. Budget Review for 2019 – Final approval due at the September meeting

Forbes suggested having a similar budget for 2019 with an increase in gardening and adding the \$2,000 from CIP into the tree replacement budget for EAB ash tree replacement in odd years (or \$1,000 annually). Rezabek stated that the replacements should be in the same locations that ash trees were removed.

Rogers said that residents take good care of their properties and the city should do the same. She thinks the beach park needs attention and updates. Commissioners talked about having a work session to discuss the beach as a larger project which may be a CIP item.

Forbes has been deliberately focusing on creating routines of work that needs to be done so it gets done and isn't forgotten. Now that those routines are in place, they can move forward on planning for improvements. Pagano suggested that they review the existing budget for routine items, identify necessary changes, and then discuss future improvements. Pagano and Boschwitz will meet to do a preliminary budget audit prior to the September 4 meeting.

2.3. Improve

2.3.1. Misc. Equipment Updates – no updates

2.3.2. Tree Planting Plan

Rogers reviewed the tree planting plan for various areas in the city. She requested the freedom to select plantings from the plan not to exceed the budget and she will consult with Berent on any areas that would affect him. There is \$6,000 budgeted for planting. Rogers confirmed with the commissioners that shrub or tree planting is under the tree replacement budget category. She wants to cut down an overgrown bush at the beach and the library. She has \$2,889 remaining in the budget for trimming but a lot of trimming is needed. Commissioners agreed that trimming is necessary to maintain the trees. Rogers discussed combining the funds in the trimming and planting categories to be used as needed because they fall under the same 2524 Tree and Forest Maintenance. This would mean they may spend more on trimming and less on planting but it would not exceed the \$9,000 remaining in Tree and Forest Maintenance. Forbes stated that they don't have a problem with her having that latitude. Pagano and Boschwitz will meet to audit the current budget and identify funds that may not be spent this year but are needed elsewhere. They will work with Rogers on a prioritization of her projects and allocation of funds.

Rogers also mentioned that the area between County Road 15 and the city docks needs to be cleaned up.

Dovolis said the Hennepin County Youth Sports Grant application is due November 5. Parks committed to helping Berent fill out the grant for a utility vehicle and he would be responsible to follow through to get Council's approval and commitment to a match in funds.

Rezabek stated that the city did not get the Ash tree project grant. It was very competitive and some cities have not done anything for EAB.

3. Adjournment

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

Forbes adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Honey, City Clerk