

Tuesday, August 02, 2022, 5:00 PM
CITY OF MINNETONKA BEACH
PARK COMMISSION MEETING AMENDED MINUTES

Members Present: Co-Chair Kim Petersen, Co-Chair Julia Sharma; Commissioners: Chris Dovolis, Curt Holt, and Lucian Panait, Joe Pagano, Patty Rezabek

Special Volunteer:

Absent: Tracey Breazeale

Staff Present: City Clerk Jane Burgess

Council Liaison:

Guests:

Petersen and Sharma opened the meeting at 5:07 pm

1. Minnetonka Beach Business

1.1. Approve Agenda – August 2, 2022

Rezabek motion, Holt second to approve the August 02, 2022, meeting agenda. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

1.2. Approve Minutes – June 7, 2022

Sharma requested that the minutes be amended to state that Dovolis was absent from the June 7, 2022 Park Commission meeting.

Pagano motion, Holt second to approve the amended June 7, 2022 meeting minutes. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

2. Administration

2.1 CIP Discussion Update – JP

Pagano presented an update from the Planning Commission meeting that item #12, \$5750 rip rap, should be moved up to 2023 as it is in bad shape. Pagano and Hilgers inspected it and other places throughout the community. The other item that planning commission approved is the swim beach paver project for \$3500. EAB treatments will be done in 2023 for \$7200 as well, Pagano added.

2.2 Budget Review

Pagano stated that year to date, \$13,000 of the \$38,000 Parks budget has been spent, representing about 1/3 of the budget. There is \$25,780 remaining to spend. He reviewed the transaction detail report with Administrator Honey, matched it to the budget, and YTD category spending was reviewed. Pagano asked that the bottom part of the 2022 budget showing what is left to spend by category be included in these minutes as follows:

Public Works						12250	
Green						6926	
Staff						1109	
Lucian						3500	
Hold Back						1995	
					TOTAL	25780	

Pagano requested that the commissioners and Hilgers present at the September meeting how they are going to spend the remaining funds in their category as planned. He noted the Hold Back funds of \$1995 for unplanned expenses that may arise. He asked that everyone check that their vendors will do the work as planned and coordinate invoicing and payment with Honey and Burgess.

Pagano noted that in 2023 budgeted items that were in Parks budget will move to Public Works budget as the work is more of a City function of that department. Heavy lifting, repairs, cutting things down is public works. That is why the 2023 budget is much lower at \$21,175. Beach cleanup by Waterfront Restoration is \$3500 and \$2800 was budgeted for beach cleanup for the Public Works summer employee to do.

Pagano asked the commissioners if they are comfortable with the 2023 budget as it is \$17,325 less than 2022. Dovolis asked about hard asset inspections and if that will continue as it has been done by Parks in the past. Pagano answered that the inspection process will continue as it has been done, but with collaboration with Public Works. Dovolis stated that he agrees that work performed by Public Works should be in that budget.

Rezabek asked for confirmation that tree trimming will be covered in the Public Works budget and Hilgers confirmed that.

Dovolis said communication will be important between Public Works and Parks to confirm that work is performed as approved.

They discussed the Parks budget and Public Works as it pertains to City Council approval and potential budget cuts that could occur and how that would affect Parks. Rezabek stated that her concern that items important to Parks are not cut in the City Council budget. Pagano stated that the shift in budgets would have to be communicated to council and monitored. Dovolis suggested shading and footnoting these items shifted to monitor them especially at this time next year for budgeting purposes. Pagano agreed that this can be easily done.

2.3 Review of SPOC Assignments for 2023

2.3.1 Green Team – Rezabek, Petersen, and Holt are all on board for 2023 on the Green Team.

2.3.2 Hard Asset Team - Sharma explained for Holt's benefit as he is a new commissioner. Dovolis and Pagano will work with Hilgers on this team for inspections etc. They will also inspect sports equipment in various locations.

2.3.3 Adopt a Park – The Program was designed for resident volunteers to Adopt a Park area to pick up trash, fix things, report golf carts driving in parks etc. At this time only two parks were adopted in the City by Mayor Lindstrom and the Panait family. The commissioners agreed to remove Adopt a Park from the list for now and to suspend the project as it has not been successful.

2.3.4 Lafayette Park Welcome Sign – Dovolis agreed to continue on as SPOC for this project. Dovolis presented that the back of existing Welcome Sign is rotting out and patched but will fall apart sometime. There is \$6000 in CIP money for this sign. The first bid from Imaginality Designs is for \$5546.00 for an exact replica of the existing cedar sign. The thickness of the sign will be thinner as they don't manufacture thick signs anymore.

Bids obtained is from King Signs who quoted \$4800 for a 1.25' sign using composite material (Dovolis to confirm), which is the only material they use, and it lasts 10 times longer than cedar. They quoted two different thicknesses. Dovolis recommends composite as it looks like wood, lasts longer, and is less expensive. King Signs wants to install new posts and footings for a best solid sign and is included in their bid. The Imaginality quote

does not include posts and footings which is 500.00. Both companies are under budget of \$6,000. In summary, there are three options: King quoted \$4860 for a 1.25" composite sign, and \$5930 for a 2.5" composite sign. King wants to install new posts and footings and is included in bids.

Imaginality quoted \$5636 for a 2" sign – this price including posts and footings. Dovolis didn't ask about installation dates and both companies are local. All are thinner than the existing sign.

Rezabek wants font to be clearer in the King layout. Dovolis likes both companies. Petersen requested a site visit from both companies. All agreed composite and bettering font and air gap is necessary, along with confirmation of post materials to be used and timeline. They all want to make it exactly like it is as close as possible.

2.3.5 Bench replacement – Pagano agreed to be SPOC for this project.

Pagano presented that resident Lehman was consulted by Sharma, Petersen and himself, and after looking at nearly 100 bench designs, they decided on a six-foot heritage style bench. It is mounted to concrete, bigger than the City Hall bench, the frame is metal, and it is traditional black with cedar composite to minimize maintenance. The benches arrived and will be assembled this winter by Hilgers and installed this spring 2023. Scherer will refurbish 2-3 existing benches over the winter. Pagano stated that Scherer is a great resident volunteer for the City and Lehman was extremely helpful too.

2.4 Update of Meeting with City Swim Beach Dock slip renters – PR & LP

Panait stated that Thoms Pivec, owner of North Country Barge Dock & Lift, presented his proposal for swim beach dock slip renters. His company would be a solution to increase efficiency of dock, lift and boathouse installation and removal so parts are not on the swim beach. His company will take care of everything even storage of all parts in winter at their facility. They would complete dock installation in the spring within a month of ice out, will keep everything in order. The install this year with Cody Rassatt fell apart mid-install and was a mess on the beach for a long time. Panait is not aware if other companies will bid on and do the job. Not all slip renters on board with Pivec as the cost will be much greater and there is no conclusion yet. Swim Beach Dock Captain Pottebaum sent email messages to the renters with different alternative solutions including having three dock captains and let the renters do own thing with or without Pivec. Panait concluded stating that another suggestion would be to form an association of sorts for the swim beach dock renters. There is another meeting at the end of August with Pivec to discuss this further.

Pagano explained the Lafayette Ridge Association and their dock system, process for in and out and storage. Since the association owns the land at their beach the dock parts can be stored at their swim beach. The Swim Beach dock parts cannot be stored on the City Swim Beach Park.

Rezabek expressed concerned for Pivec's quote and the high expense, along with the fact that they only have one quote. She also doesn't like being required by Pivec to get a new boathouse that is not wood as they require aluminum boathouses.

Hilgers stated that this is not the City's problem as the City only rents the dock slip space.

2.5 Officers for 2022/2023 – JS

They discussed having co-chairs or going back to one chair for 2022-2023. It was decided to keep co-chairs in place.

Holt motion, Rezabek second, for Petersen and Pagano to be co-chairs of Park Commission for 2022-2023. All eyes motion passes.

2.6 Skate Park – Petersen passed this issue on to Jason for a short-term plan. She said that 2027 is the year for replacement parts and wants to know what is usable. If a couple ramps and rails can be put back at Ray Peters, she thought that would be good.

Hilgers said the ramps were put away as they are not in good condition or safe, some have holes in them, but maybe a couple of them could go back out for use. He has kept the pieces out of Ray Peters as the parking lot was seal coated and there needs to be room for the food trucks for soccer nights and parking.

Petersen stated that the skate park needs a permanent home, but there are kids who would use what parts are usable in the short term. Pagano suggested moving the skate park parts expense up from 2027. Panait suggested placing the skate park where the swing set is at Ray Peters. They discussed all these items.

Petersen asked if the swing set is up to code. Dovolis responded that nothing about the swing set is unsafe but, it would not be installed the way it is if done today. Dovolis asked if the City wants the skate park, and do people want it? He added that if the residents want a skateboard park, then perhaps equipment purchase for this should be added to the CIP. Petersen said it's on the CIP for 2027. She added that there is demand for the skate park as residents were willing to put it in their driveways while the parking lot was seal coated at Ray Peters. Panait agreed there is a demand for it and his boys use it as well.

Pagano stated that the City's Comp Plan states that the City is to have a skate park and it says nothing about a swing set. He said that perhaps the neighbors especially the Kramer's should be consulted about noise from the skate park. They discussed a possible survey and Burgess said it could go to all residents in their utility bill.

Hilgers said that Johnson's who live next door to City Hall tried to get rid of the skateboard park at City Hall due to the noise. Hilgers said he doesn't know how safe the parts are, and a permanent home for it needs to be determined.

Petersen asked if the hard asset team could inspect it. Rezabek suggested consideration of the Hennepin County sports grant to help with skate park part expenses. Sharma tabled the discussion until the September meeting. Pagano said Dovolis, Panait, and Hilgers will inspect equipment.

3. Operations

3.1 Status of Tree Canopy Grant and tree planting plan- PR

Rezabek stated that because of the grant the City received, 42 trees were planted finishing tomorrow hopefully. When completed there will be a lot of watering for Hilgers and Kohlton. Hilgers said the new tree plantings take 4 hours a day Monday and Thursday to water. He added that the water bags for trees lasting 1.5 days – 2 days. Rezabek stated that the City received an \$11,000 discount with no replacement guarantee if trees die.

3.2 Green Asset update: Liza Crear Garden, Restore the Shore planting and watering plan – KP

Petersen stated that she and her son removed invasive species from the Liza Crear Garden and divided plants into a new corner garden. They are watering new plants planted at the swim beach last fall due to the drought. Petersen has plants to plant from Natural Shores Technologies and they are waiting for better weather to plant.

Beach cleaning status update – LP

Panait reported that the beach cleanup all summer has gone well. Waterfront Restoration pulled weeds six times this summer and there are less geese this year but more ducks. Public Works summer employee Kohlton plus Waterfront Restoration who is weeding a 35 x 80 foot area in the water and it's going well. He said he may ask them to go further out with dates next year if the budget allows. Rezabek noticed a decline in swim beach usage lately. Hilgers stated that Kohlton will work for the City again next summer.

3.3 Lafayette Park plantings – CH

Holt still working on the Lafayette Park site plan making it as accurate as possible. He stated that it is challenging to start a native plant garden using commercial seed on an elevated location hugging the trail as it drains quickly. The

wide-open areas cannot be used. He proposed to do one seed started and one planting using Petersen's material. He stated that it's been too hot and dry to plant. He will have Hilgers core aerate a 40 ft x 18 ft westernmost curve on back side of trail. He may add organic material that holds water, and he will kill weeds at some point too. Hilgers confirmed that he will rent an aerator this fall. Holt will research a good seed mix which is low cost, that requires little water and a lot of sun for Lafayette Park. He stated that Ray Peters Park has a lot of monarch caterpillars now from the milkweed and the California poppies he planted have germinated. He may do soil samples too for improvement possibilities.

3.4 Jason Hilger's "punch list" progress – JH

Hilgers met with Pagano and reviewed and got quite a bit done including rock work on walking trail. He pushed off some things to 2023 and they are on the list in yellow. He stated that everything is moving along. The Ray Peters Park sign refurbishment done by Pagano looks fantastic Hilgers and Petersen added. He made it clear now that the park closes at 10:00 pm. Burgess will put before and after photos of the sign in the Beachcomber.

4. FYI's

4.1 Soccer Nights Update - LP

Panait stated that 80 food orders were placed with the Calaveras food truck at the June Soccer and Food Truck Fun For All event. In July, Pfeffer's' Meat Wagon sold \$485.00 worth of food - much less orders. The commission decided to cancel the August soccer night and food truck as attendance diminished greatly from June to July and they don't want the food trucks to not do well in food sales.

5. Commissioner and Liaison Comments

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

Pagano motion, Holt second to adjourn the August 2, 2022, Park Commission meeting. With all members voting in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Public in attendance: none

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Burgess, City Clerk