

**MINUTES**  
**PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
**Wednesday, September 24, 2008**  
**6:30 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Joe Schleper called the Park and Recreation Committee meeting Wednesday, September 24, 2008 to order at 6:39 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Joe Schleper, Chair  
Mary Ditty, Vice Chair  
Chris Hart  
Mike Lindquist  
Anders Sonnenburg

**Members Absent:** Heather Motzko, Secretary  
Lori Shoultz

**Also Present:** Marc Plese, Council Member Liaison  
Luke Fischer, Assistant to the City Administrator  
Wendy Biel, Recorder

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

No discussion or motion made.

**4. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**A. Review Summer Recreation Grant Programs**

Members reviewed the final reports from Tiger Summer Tennis, Open Tennis, Discovery Zone, Concerts in the Park and Delano Summer Soccer.

Joe Schleper requested an on-going yearly comparison which could be submitted at the end of each season for the Committee Members to analyze. He appreciated the breakdown for 2008, but future years could be added for comparisons of attendance, revenue, costs, etc.

Committee Members suggested any programs that showed a profit at the end of the season, to re-invest the following year to lower fees or upgrade equipment. The suggestion was also made if after two years, programs continued to show revenue, then a re-budget should be made to lessen the revenue. The committee's goal is to budget appropriately and have zero revenue.

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Mike Lindquist wanted to note that many outside sources donated equipment utilized by various sport's programs. This was a great benefit to the program and was greatly appreciated. An inventory of current equipment available per program should be developed so that revenue from previous years could be properly distributed.

Marc Plese wanted to compliment the Concerts in the Park program. Other members echoed his compliments. Lindquist stated this was a great showcase for the City and its residents.

**B. Review Landscape Structures playground proposal.**

Luke Fischer reviewed the proposal from Landscape Structures (LSI). LSI proposes park improvement at Maple Knoll Park. Committee members were encouraged by the proposal. LSI is donating the majority of costs for equipment and labor for improvement and revisions to Maple Knoll Park.

Marc Plese questioned their (LSI) decision to choose Maple Knoll Park. Chris Hart noted that Landscape Structures is donating approximately sixty (\$0.60) cents on the dollar for the park; Maple Knoll Park is easily accessed for LSI to offer tours of new product for future clients, and this being a park in an established neighborhood.

Committee Members asked where the additional funds would come from to finish the project; requesting that this project not take funds from priority projects established previously by the Committee. Discussion was made as a reminder of the generous offer by LSI and that funded would possibly be drawn from Capital Improvement Fund or the Liquor Fund.

Joe Schleper requested motion accepting proposal; pending additional costs not affect the Park & Recreation Fund reserved for future projected projects. Mary Ditty motioned to continue discussion with LSI, pending final budget evaluations, Chris Hart seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

**C. Review Woodland Meadows Park/Barb King Park concept.**

Luke Fischer described the tentative park layout, consisting of two volleyball courts, hockey rink/basketball court combination, baseball/football field combination, pavilion, tot lot, and wetland preservation area.

Mike Lindquist questioned the ability to put a soccer field replacing the baseball/football field location. Schleper suggested focusing on soccer to ensure the field have one consistent use. Schleper asked if proper irrigation of the field had been addressed. Hart questioned

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whether this location had enough space for a soccer field. Lindquist informed Committee Members that there needs to be 330 feet x 600 feet for regulation size. Also, Lindquist asked if Roller Hockey could utilize the hockey/basketball court combination in the spring & summer.

Schleper and Hart suggested switching the field location with the Tot Lot and hockey/basketball court. This may access more grass for expanding the field into soccer (at regulation size) field and allowing easier access from vehicles to the hockey rink. This could ease parents walking their kids with hockey skates to and from the rink.

Luke Fischer reiterated that this was a preliminary drawing and would bring the Committee's suggestions to further discussion with LSI. Possible construction start date is projected for 2009.

**D. Discuss scoreboard installation at north baseball field.**

Luke Fischer brought the Committee Members up to date on previous discussion with Mr. Paulson regarding the costs of the scoreboard installation. A funding option that was discussed is the sale of banner space along the outfield fence; this could be sold as advertising space.

Mary Ditty inquired if the same banners could be used on the football field by fall and the baseball fields by spring; this would double the exposure and allow the cost of space to increase. Ditty confirmed the sale of advertising space would be utilized to offset the cost of the scoreboard installation. Mike Lindquist suggested working with the soccer program and allow more advertising opportunity and viewing by more spectators. More exposure would coincide with more profit possibilities.

Chris Hart requested clarification on whether there were parameters regarding advertising sponsorship and content. Also which organization(s) would profit if banners are used at various sport venues? How would this revenue be distributed?

The Committee Members requested more details before reviewing this proposal further.

**E. Discuss any outstanding issues from previous meetings.**

Committee Members discussed a variety of subjects from previous meetings and requested to future updates from Staff. Mike Lindquist requested Luke Fischer and Ernie Eden develop a list community service activities; Lindquist has approximately 55 soccer players that donate 5 hours each of community service.

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Lindquist also asked to follow-up with Ernie Eden regarding the drainage issues still plaguing the new baseball fields at Central Park. They have not been corrected to date; Chris Hart suggested evaluating drainage concerns during a rain to accurately access the problem.

Chris Hart brought in samples of material for roof replacements of the Central Park baseball fields. Hart suggested utilizing similar materials as the school's four-plex to maintain a consistency throughout the City. Hart mentioned an individual that may have materials available and might donate them for the dugouts; this could be a savings of approximately \$9,000.00. Hart noted that the total project cost for the new dugouts in Central Park would be approximately \$12,000.00.

Mary Ditty questioned if the Railroad Bridge, that will be replaced later this fall by MnDOT, be used as a new walking bridge over the Crow River.

Joe Schleper requested a follow up regarding the storage buildings on the Lundeen Property; whether these would become available for City use after the final sale of the property. He also requested an update regarding the Rebecca Park trail project. Schleper requested Staff to research other cities, similar in size to Delano, parks usages: number of parks within city limits, number of sports fields (soccer, baseball, football, etc), number of hockey rinks (indoor and outdoor), etc. He is looking for a comparison to base some future Park & Recreation Committee recommendations on.

Marc Plese suggested meeting with a Park & Recreation Director, regarding their city's usage of grants, development ideas, future planning processes, etc.

Next Park & Recreation Committee meetings scheduled for October 29 and November 19.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss the Park & Recreation Meeting of Wednesday, September 24, 2008 was adjourned at 8:25 PM.