

**MINUTES**  
**PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
**Wednesday, October 29, 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 6:34 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Joe Schleper, Chair  
Mary Ditty, Vice Chair  
Heather Motzko, Secretary  
Marc Plese, Council Member Liaison  
Chris Hart  
Mike Lindquist  
Lori Shoultz

**Members Absent:** Anders Sonnenburg

**Also Present:** Phil Kern, City Administrator  
Ernie Eden, Public Works Director  
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 assessment of the Fun In The Sun (FITS) program. Initial discussion reviewed the length of the program. Residents had requested extending the program to an eight or ten week session; other requests were to start the program later in June and then continuing the program later into August. Due to other summer sport programs (i.e. baseball / softball) taking up the beginning of summer break, FITS would then keep kids active later into summer break.

Further consideration will be made by Committee Members in early spring as preparation for the 2009 summer schedule.

**B. Update on Maple Knoll Park improvements.**

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Phil Kern and Ernie Eden reviewed the various evos equipment being installed at Maple Knoll Park. Installation is scheduled to begin this week and should be completed in two weeks.

Ernie Eden will evaluate the original park equipment for safety and the possibility of use at other parks. A wood chip base was reviewed and its cost effectiveness; curb and gutter layout was also reviewed.

**C. Review Section 303.01 of the City Code.**

Phil Kern reviewed suggestions made by City Council from the Special Workshop Tuesday, October 28, 2008 for recodification of City Ordinances as pertaining to Parks and Playgrounds.

Section 303.01 Subd. 2. Regulations A. Overnight Use. Available park hours were specifically discussed by Committee Members. Signage is available stating City park(s), playgrounds, grandstand, and picnic shelters shall not be used or occupied from dusk to dawn of the following day. After deliberation, Committee Members also wanted to include a description allowing Council to grant special permission by permit allowing use for extended time(s) of events such as sporting games/tournaments, July 4 Celebration, private family gatherings, etc.

Committee Members agreed to Section 303.01. Subd. 1. Purpose – that City parks and playgrounds should be accessible to all people for the purpose of organized sports, recreation, relaxation and picnics. Members felt the requirement to utilize City parks and playgrounds from dusk to dawn of the following day should be controlled by permit to maintain safety of others and deter loitering.

**Motion by Mike Lindquist, seconded by Heather Motzko Section 303.01 Subd. 2. A. City parks, playgrounds, grandstand and picnic shelters shall not be used or occupied from dusk to dawn of the following day... Allowing Council to review and permit extended time for use and occupancy as Council determines; pending legal verbiage affirmed by the City Attorney. Motion carried 7-0.**

Section 303.01 Subd. 2. Regulations D. Beverage and Food Containers. Members requested a comparison of permissible alcohol consumption policies and ordinances from surrounding communities for further discussion.

Section 304.01 Public Waters. Marc Plese called for “wetlands & ponds” be included in the description as non-permissible areas. Staff will bring this addition to Council for approval.

**D. Review 2009 Budget.**

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Phil Kern gave an analysis of the 2009 budget drawing attention to the Community Service fund and the Park Dedication fund. Description and explanation were given for these two areas of focus.

**E. Discuss projects for 2009.**

The July 4<sup>th</sup> Committee specifically requested the fence surrounding the Big Top Music Tent is considered for removal to better accommodate the flow of public. Ernie Eden stated the fence could be salvaged for later use if removed.

**Motion by Mike Lindquist, seconded by Mary Ditty to remove the fence surrounding the Big Top Music Tent. Motion carried 7-0.**

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

Mike Lindquist asked that the barricades on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street N north of Park Avenue be adjusted for wheel chair access.

Ernie Eden reviewed the winterize schedule of fields and park areas. Members voiced concern of proper drainage correction near new ball fields by Central Park and removal of dugout roofs for replacement.

Next Park & Recreation Committee meetings scheduled for Wednesday, December 3, 2008.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss the Park & Recreation Meeting of Wednesday, October 29, 2008 was adjourned at 7:58 PM.