

**MAHTOMEDI PARKS COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
May 15, 2019**

A Park Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Wedgewood Park.

Present were Commissioners: Chair Charlesworth, Commissioner Metz, Commissioner Fischer, Commissioner Lindberg and Commissioner Thompson

Also present were: PW Director, Bob Goebel; PW Office Asst., Jeannie Novak; Mahtomedi Community Ed Director, Cathy Wyland

Absent: Vice Chair Eldredge, Council Liaison Deans

**AGENDA**

Upon motion by, Commissioner Fischer; seconded by, Commissioner Lundberg all members voting in favor, the agenda was approved as presented.

**MINUTES**

Upon motion by Commissioner Metz, seconded by Commissioner Fischer, all members voting in favor, the April 17, 2019 Park Commission meeting minutes were approved as presented.

**STAFF REPORTS**

Director Goebel gave a brief update on current public works activities.

**Streets Maintenance** Street Sweeping is complete. Potholes are extensive throughout the City, crews are patching at least 3 days a week. Residents are encouraged to call Public Works with pothole complaints. Vehicle maintenance is ongoing with the concentration on summer related equipment.

**2019 Street Reconstruction Projects:** Echo Lake Reconstruction project is well underway. Phase 1 is complete. Paving of Phase 2 will begin June 10<sup>th</sup>. Xcel Energy will be complete installing the new gas main on CSAH 12 next week with the actual project beginning June 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Parks & Trails:** All of the parks are open and being used heavily on a daily basis. The dock and bouys are in at the beach. Lifeguards start June 15<sup>th</sup>. Mowing has been a challenge to keep up with the how fast the grass is growing. We hired 4 seasonals, who will start in early June which will help tremendously with the mowing. Streetcar Trail and the Lake Links Trail contract has been awarded, construction will begin in August.

**Utilities:** Spring Hydrant flushing is complete. We will be testing for water flow and pressure in areas. New meter installs are going well, we have installed 1381 meters with many more on the schedule.

**Stormwater:** A 48" stormwater culvert under Hwy. 244 (Wildwood Rd.) just south of Birchwood Road failed and created a sinkhole in the center of the road. MnDOT maintenance has been monitoring and filling the hole as needed. The pipe needs to be replaced, they are looking at early June, which will require the closure of Hwy. 244 between Birchwood Road and View Road, a detour will be posted. They are guessing the work will take 10 – 14 days. Washington County also has County 12 (Stillwater Road) closed for construction and we are coordinating with the county project; however both roads will need to be closed at the same time.

**OPEN FORUM**

Community Ed Director, Cathy Wyland gave a brief update regarding the RITE of Spring event that was held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the event was very well attended, over 100 people. The drive thru drop off had 563 cars, which is 100 fewer than last year but still yielded 45,000 pounds of Household Hazardous Waste; 60,000 pounds of Electronics and 7,500 pounds of paper shredding. She also stated that they could really use more help next year from the Environmental Commission members when it comes to setting up, staffing the event and cleaning up. Cathy also mentioned that there is a Safe Routes to School meeting tomorrow morning and will update the commission at the June meeting.

The Commission members held a brief discussion regarding the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair. Chair Charlesworth expressed his excitement of being Chair for a number of years and would like to continue in that capacity but also stated that if someone else would like to give it a shot that he would encourage and support a new Chair. The Commission members are happy with Commissioner Charlesworth and feel he should continue as Chair. Commissioner Eldredge was unable to attend tonight's meeting but expressed in an email that he would continue on as Vice Chair.

**Appoint Parks Chair & Vice-Chair**

Upon motion by, Commissioner Lindberg; seconded by, Commissioner Fischer all members voting in favor, Vice-Chair Eldredge was named Vice-Chair of the Parks Commission.

Upon motion by, Commissioner Lindberg; seconded by Commissioner Fischer, all members voting in favor, Chair Charlesworth was named Chair of the Parks Commission.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Tree Planting for 2019 Arbor Day at Wedgewood Park**

A White Pine was planted near the entrance of the walking path at Wedgewood Park.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a. Wrap-Up RITE of Spring**

See Open Forum above where Community Ed Director, Cathy Wyland gave this update. Director Goebel added that a new compost facility is opening up in Forest Lake for Washington County Residents and that Washington County is also partnering with Ramsey County for more composting options for residents.

**b. Update - Playground Donation SW Park**

Director Goebel stated that he met with the Markovitz's and so far they have raised about \$53,000 of the \$100,000 funding needed for Aaron's Playground. They also stated that they are expecting corporate donations also. The Star Tribune and Fox 9 did stories about Aaron's Playground with the Markovitz's and Director Goebel was interviewed also and stated that the publicity should bring in more donations. He also stated that the Markovitz's are working directly with the sign maker for the "Future Site of Aaron's Playground" sign that will be placed in Southwest Park once complete.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS Con't**

**c. Update - Parks Master Plan – Pheasant Run Park**

Director Goebel informed the commission members that the next step in the process is the preparation of plans and specs to allow Contractor's to bid on the project. Director Goebel stated that the public works crew will remove the trees, grills, picnic tables, relocate the restroom enclosure and install the new benches, trash receptacles and doggie stations, which will save a lot of money that can be used in other areas of the project.

**NEXT PARK COMMISSION MEETING**

The next Park Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Public Works Facility.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by, Commissioner Lindberg, seconded by, Chair Charlesworth, all members voting in favor, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

*Jeannie Novak*

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Jeannie Novak, PW Office Asst.