

**MAHTOMEDI PARKS COMMISSION
MINUTES
March 20, 2019**

A Park Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at Public Works.

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

Also present were: PW Office Asst., Jeannie Novak; Council Liaison Deans; Mahtomedi Community Ed Director, Cathy Wyland; WSB Landscape Architect, Candace Amberg; Mahtomedi Resident, Ian Harding

Absent: PW Director, Bob Goebel;

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Upon motion by Commissioner Lindberg, seconded by Commissioner Metz, all members voting in favor, the January 16, 2019 Park Commission meeting minutes were approved as presented.

STAFF REPORTS

Director Goebel was not able to attend tonight's meeting but provided a handout with a brief update on current public works activities.

OPEN FORUM

Community Ed Director, Cathy Wyland stated that the District has formed a Strategic Planning Committee with Action Plans and said there are openings if anyone is interested in joining. She also stated the summer brochure is out, the RITE of Spring will be held at Mahtomedi Middle School on Sat., April 27th. The Rink II Group was approved for 1 sheet of ice but still have a lot fundraising to do. The existing library on Stillwater Road will be demolished and rebuilt, District Ed will host the library during the construction of the new library, and they will also host Pumpkin Mania, not sure where the Farmers Market will be held yet.

Council Liaison Deans stated that the Council approved a new Park Commission member: Jesse Thompson and approved Chair Jeff Charlesworth for another 3 year term. He also stated that all the Advisory Commissions are in need of members and if anyone has any ideas on how to recruit new members. Chair Charlesworth stated that he feels current members are the best people to recruit new members as we have the knowledge of what our commission does.

NEW BUSINESS

a. MN Orienteering Club Event – Ian Harding

Mahtomedi resident, Ian Harding held a brief discussion about the Orienteering club and stated that they would like to hold an event in Katherine Abbott Park, Wildwood Park, Southwest Park and the Streetcar Trail on Veterans Day night, Monday, Nov., 11th, from 5:30 pm to 10 pm. This is after the City's normal park hours and requires Council approval. The Park Commission members didn't see problem and would support this event.

Upon motion by, Commissioner Lindberg, seconded by, Commissioner Fischer, all members voting in favor, to recommend the City Council support and approve the MN Orienteering Clubs Veterans Day night event on Monday, November 11, 2019.

b. Mahtomedi Mobility & Fitness Network Proposal – Ian Harding

Mahtomedi Resident and Mahtomedi Area Green Initiative member, Ian Harding held a lengthy discussion proposing a mobility and fitness network by installing fitness stations along sections of trails in Mahtomedi. The Commission members like the concept but are concerned about the cost of the fitness stations. Chair Charlesworth asked if this is something that could be done in phases to keep the costs down. Vice Chair Eldridge stated that he's concerned about the cost for something that would be used only 6 months or less a year. The concern about who would maintain these fitness stations was also discussed. Chair Charlesworth stated that he would like to table this discussion until PW Director Goebel could give his opinion and recommendations to the Commission. The discussion was tabled until the April 17th Parks Commission meeting.

c. SHIP Grant – Washington Cty Money for Benches & Bike Racks – Ian Harding

PW Director Goebel has been working on completing the necessary paperwork for this grant but we are not sure we will meet the Friday, March 22nd, 2019 at 4 pm submission deadline as Director Goebel is out of the office the rest of the week. WSB Landscape Architect, Candace Amberg stated that she could possibly help complete the application.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Update - Playground Donation SW Park – Craig & Becky Markovitz

Council Liaison Deans stated that the Markovitz's have raised about 25% of the funding needed for Aaron's Playground.

**b. Update - Parks Master Plan – Candace Amberg, WSB Landscape Architect;
Neighborhood Meeting Feedback for Pheasant Run & Hallam Parks**

Candace held a lengthy discussion and presentation of various concepts for Hallam and Pheasant Run Parks. Below are the comments Candace wrote down after discussion with the Commission members.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS Con't

Hallam:

- Use concept one for the approved plan
- Keep the entire trail loop in, not as an alternate
- Make sure the existing chain link fence comes out – maybe an in-house project by City
- Remove the stand alone shelter and instead show the well house building being improved (to be timed with the well house improvements) to include some open air picnic space off the side and drinking fountain like the one that was built at the other well house
- Add another bench by the playground
- Don't show a fitness pad location in the park (from conversation about fitness station loops)
- Note that any street improvements for parking would be done with a street project

Pheasant Run:

- Like the plan as shown with the addition of a drinking fountain
- Shelter area can remain a future consideration or alternate since that did not seem high priority for the residents
- No fitness stations

NEXT PARK COMMISSION MEETING

The next Park Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Public Works Facility.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by, Commissioner Lindberg, seconded by, Vice Chair Eldredge, all members voting in favor, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jeannie Novak

Jeannie Novak, PW Office Asst.