

**MAHTOMEDI PARKS COMMISSION
MINUTES
April 17, 2019**

A Park Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at Public Works.

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; Council Liaison Deans; Mahtomedi Community Ed Director, Cathy Wyland; Mahtomedi Resident, Ian Harding

Absent: Vice Chair Eldredge

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 March 20, 2019 Park Commission meeting minutes were approved as presented.

STAFF REPORTS

Director Goebel introduced our new Parks Commission member, Jessie Thompson. He then gave a brief update on current public works activities.

Streets Maintenance: Several late season snow falls have been keeping us busy. Street Sweeping will start April 29th (weathering permitting) and should be complete the same week. Potholes are extensive throughout the City and patching is and will be ongoing. 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 street project will be starting soon. Briarwood/Quail punch list items remain from 2018 will be starting soon as well. He also stated that the CSAH 12 bids were open yesterday and came in 20% higher than the engineers estimate, the county will be taking a look at the numbers and the contractors will be looking at where costs can be cut. The Wildwood library is set to close on July 19, 2019 and plan to re-open in 11-13 months. He also stated that due to the CSAH 12 project the Memorial Day parade has been re-routed and the alternate route will be added to the City's website. Also due to the CSAH 12 project the Farmer's Market will be held at the District Ed. Center on Sunday's from June 16th – September 22nd. Director Goebel also stated the City Council approved the alignment of the Lake Links trail from Neptune to Maple. Commissioner Metz asked if Neptune is in the plans to be reconstructed this year or in 2020, Director Goebel said that is will probably be 2020 as it is a possibly going to be a 2 year project.

Parks & Trails: Parks equipment maintenance and ordering of supplies is ongoing. The portable restrooms are in and ball field maintenance will begin soon. Several trees have been removed and/or trimmed in the parks.

Utilities: Spring Hydrant flushing will be starting as soon as possible. New meter installs are ongoing, as of today we have installed 1283 meters with many more on the replacement schedule in the near future.

Stormwater: Storm water grate inspections and cleaning is ongoing several times a day.

OPEN FORUM

Community Ed Director, Cathy Wyland stated that the District is excited to host the Memorial Day parade this year, the building will be open so people have access to the restrooms. The outdoor facilities maintenance meeting was held on April 2nd and the District is always grateful for their partnership with the City. Dugout covers will be installed at Southwest Park. The Safe Routes to School committee will meet in May for an update. The RITE of Spring will be held at Mahtomedi Middle School on Sat., April 27th. The District Ed Center will host the Farmers Market this year, the day is changing from Saturdays to Sundays beginning June 16th through September 22nd. Director Goebel added that Washington County will be overlaying Hilton Trail, it will be a 3 week project with no detours, just using flagmen.

Council Liaison Deans stated that Great River Greening will be holding a Buckthorn Bust event in Katherine Abbott Park on Saturday, June 1st from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Check the City's website for more information. www.ci.mahtomedi.mn.us

NEW BUSINESS

- a. None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **Mahtomedi Mobility & Fitness Network Proposal**

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 at the March 20th Parks meeting. The Commission members like the concept but wanted input from Director Goebel. Director Goebel stated that this is something that would need to be included in the budget. He asked Mr. Harding if there is any possibility of grant money, Mr. Harding stated that he is not aware of any grants available at this time. Director Goebel also stated that he would like input from WSB Landscape Architect, Candace Amberg on where these stations would fit into various parks and/or along trails. He also stated that the Parks Master Plan is going to have to be a living document where items can be added as needed, it's just the beginning of this new master plan. He also stated that the City and the Parks Commission are still trying to work on items from the past Master Plan.

- b. **SHIP Grant – Washington Cty Money for Benches & Bike Racks –**

PW Director Goebel was able to complete the necessary paperwork for this grant by the Friday, March 22nd, 2019 at 4 pm submission deadline but unfortunately we were notified on Friday, April 12th that we were not selected to receive this grant. Director Goebel stated that we would definitely apply again next year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS Con't

c. Update - Playground Donation SW Park

Director Goebel stated that he met with the Markovitz's and so far they have raised about \$37,000 of the \$100,000 funding needed for Aaron's Playground. They also stated that they really like the playground at Casey Lake Park in North St. Paul and could that be an option at Southwest Park. Director Goebel said there is plenty of room west of the upper soccer field. The Markovitz's also asked Director Goebel if a sign saying "Future Location of Aaron's Playground" and a plaque with current donors and Aaron's story on it could be put up. Director Goebel thinks this is a great idea and would be good exposure for the project and possibly bring in more donations.

d. Update - Parks Master Plan – Pheasant Run & Hallam Parks

Director Goebel discussed the various concepts for Hallam and Pheasant Run Parks and believes the improvements will align with the budgeted amounts and be able to be completed this summer and next summer.

NEXT PARK COMMISSION MEETING

The next Park Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at a park to be determined for the Arbor Day tree planting.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by, Commissioner Fischer, seconded by, Commissioner Lindberg, all members voting in favor, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jeannie Novak

Jeannie Novak, PW Office Asst.