

**MAHTOMEDI PARKS COMMISSION
MINUTES
JUNE 16, 2021**

Chair Lindberg convened the special Park Commission meeting at Wedgewood Park at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 16, 2021.

Present were Commissioners: Vice Chair Costello, Commissioner Metz, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Strehlow

Also present were: PW Director, Bob Goebel; PW Office Assistant, Jeannie Novak; Council Liaison Charlesworth and Mahtomedi Community Ed Director, Kate Anderson

Absent: Commissioner Fischer

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Upon motion by Commissioner Metz; seconded by Vice Chair Costello, all members voting in favor, the May 19, 2021 Park Commission meeting minutes were approved as presented.

STAFF REPORTS

Director Goebel gave a brief update on current public works activities. Spring pothole patching is ongoing, residents are encouraged to call with complaints. Right of Way trimming is ongoing, crosswalk painting started May 11th, crack seal, fog seal and long line painting will begin in July. Two of the three projects are complete. The **Glenmar Diversion Project** is nearly complete, the wear course of asphalt was installed today. **Phase 4 East** is progressing well, water main is in, and services are being connected. **2021 Street Improvement Project** – is also progressing well, about half of the streets are complete, the other half are milled and being repaired with the wear course coming soon. **Wedgewood Park** playground has been ordered and is anticipated to be installed around June 30th. The beaches are open and lifeguards started June 12th at Mahtomedi beach. **Commissioner Strehlow** as about the new park signs. **Director Goebel** stated that the new signs with the new hours have been ordered and should be installed in the next couple weeks. **Commissioner Thompson** stated that she really likes the buoys at Chautauqua beach. Director Goebel also stated that all the parks are open and very busy and that the grass cutting is keeping our seasonals very busy as well. **Utilities** – We will resume water meter installs in July and storm sewer inspections are under way as well. **GreenStep** – Electric vehicle charging station is up and running at City Hall and can be found at <https://www.plugshare.com/>. The charging station at Veterans Memorial Park should be installed in the coming weeks.

OPEN FORUM

Mahtomedi Community Ed Director, Kate Anderson stated that school is done and lots of things are going on including a 5 mile community bike ride, safety camp, puppy class. She also stated that the jazz ensemble will play at the food truck Friday event this Friday. **Commissioner Thompson** asked about the skate park proposal that was presented a few years ago. **Director Goebel** said that it is still a possibility but funds are still needed to be raised. The hockey rinks could be a possible location but the boards are in pretty rough shape and the cost of lumber to repair them would be expensive right now. **Commissioner Metz** mentioned that used boards from Becker Industries have been used in the past to make repairs. **Council Liaison Charlesworth** suggested that maybe forms could be built and used inside the hockey rinks in the summer and stored in the winter.

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Council Liaison Charlesworth updated the commission on things that are going on at City Hall. He stated that the striping contract was approved and that Dahlia will be striped. Applicant, Chris Churchill was interviewed by the council and was appointed to the White Bear Lake Conservation District Board. **Director Goebel** stated that Emerald Ash Borer has been confirmed in Mahtomedi. He also stated that he met with the Metro Bowhunters Resources Base to discuss another fall deer hunt. **Vice Chair Costello** asked if the maybe the Aug. or Sept. meeting could be a walk through the Dwinnell area to start to make decisions about the future trails.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **Wedgewood Park Tree Planting** – A lilac tree and a flowering crab tree were planted at Wedgewood Park in recognition of Arbor Day.
- b. **Wedgewood Playground** – Installation of the new playground is scheduled to begin on June 30th and should only take a week to complete. Schifsky's will be doing the blacktop on the basketball court.
- a. **Gosiwin Trail** – **Director Goebel** stated that they have met with the neighbors and most are opposed on everything although one neighbor is for the project. After a brief discussion, the commission members are in favor of the trail from the Gosiwin cul-de-dac to Dahlia Street but not in favor of the connection to the Eastgate Trail at this time.

Upon motion by Commission Strehlow, seconded by Commissioner Metz, all members voting in favor to recommend the City Council approve the construction of the trail from the Gosiwin cul-de-sac to Dahlia Street.

The next Park Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at Public Works Facility.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by, Commissioner Metz; seconded by, Commissioner Thompson, all members voting in favor, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jeannie Novak

Jeannie Novak, PW Office Assistant