



**MINUTES  
PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION  
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA  
THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2022  
6:30 P.M. AT LIONS PARK**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE**

Chair Bill Ganzlin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bryan Belisle, Victoria Biehn, Mark Cermak, Bill Ganzlin, Mike Shepard

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Anastacia Davis, Ginny Davis,

**STAFF PRESENT:** Andy Wieteki, Parks Working Foreman

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Jeanne and Drew Miller

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by member **Mark Cermak** seconded by member **Victoria Biehn**, to approve the agenda with the addition of Boatworks Green Space to Unfinished Business.

Motion carried 5:0.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Minutes of April 21, 2022

It was moved by member **Mike Shepard** seconded by member **Victoria Biehn**, to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2022 meeting as presented.

Motion carried, 5:0.

**4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Jeanne and Drew Miller – neighbors of the Lions Park

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Boatworks Green Space**

Bryan Belisle would like to see the Commission make some decisions on what to install in the Boatworks Green Space to make the area usable for residents. Bryan mentioned one idea for the green space would be to install a picnic shelter similar to the one being installed at Lions Park. Bryan requested some dog waste bags and a park sign be installed in the green space area. Andy reported to the Commission that At Home Apartments has two dog waste bag dispensers with garbage cans for the residents to use. Andy mentioned that the City will be installing a mulch bed in one of the corners of the park for a designated pet relief spot. There is no timeline set for completion but it is expected to

be completed before the end of summer.

As for what can be installed in the open area, the Commission needs to be mindful of the residents that live in the apartments. The City has started some conversations with the property manager at this location to see what types of amenities would fit well with the public and private area. Andy will have additional discussions with At Home Apartments to gather ideas that will work best for both parties.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Marketfest Booth Discussion**

Andy and the Park Advisory Commission reviewed the materials that will be used at Marketfest. Andy explained to the Commission where to pick up the stuff for the booth, how to tear down the booth, and where to place the items for pickup after the event. Park maps, QR codes, park amenities and the giveaway items were also discussed. The Commission recommended a couple additions to the list of park amenities before the booth's premier at Marketfest.

### **B. Shelter Placement Discussion for Lions Park**

Andy reported to the Commission and guests on the project and upgrades at Lion's Park this year as the guests were very excited to hear about the upgrades. Andy marked the ground exactly where each shelter will be placed. At one time, the Commission had discussions about installing one of the shelters in the more eastern side of the park. However, after much consideration, City staff did not recommend that as the location. It is far off the path and would take up the only open space the park has to offer. The shelters will remain in similar locations as the current shelters reside. The new shelters will be centered and the largest of the three shelters will be turned sideways. A strip of grass will be planted between the shelter and the parking lot to create a buffer between the first parking stall and the shelter. A bike rack will also be installed between the bathrooms and the shelter, just off the trail that runs through the park. The Commission supports the idea of rotating the largest shelter and creating a buffer of grass between the parking lot and shelter.

### **C. Park Tour – Lions Park**

Most of the tour of Lions Park was surrounding the area where the new shelters will be placed. The Commission talked about the green space to the East of the restrooms and that someday the City will incorporate a natural looking climbing structure (similar to something found in a nature preserve). The intent of the green space is primarily to be left open for games and activities. Ms. Miller questioned the amount of people that fish from the shoreline and trample all of the native plants that create a buffer between the lake and park. Andy mentioned that we have designated areas for fishing along the shoreline. The City installed a new fence a couple years ago to curb the amount of people from walking through the native plant areas; but unfortunately there is no way to police this. It has been challenging to keep this shoreline from being trampled on due to its

popularity for fishing.

The Commission also discussed the bike fix it station and the amount it is used. Two new kayak racks were installed recently allowing the City to rent 16 more spots, eliminating about half of the waiting the list.

The schedule for this summer's park tours is as follows:

**July** – Podvin Park

**August** – Hidden Hollow Park

**September** – Lakewood Hills Park

## 7. DISCUSSION

### A. Staff updates

#### **Special Events Kick Off**

Andy reported on all of the special events that kick off this week with Marketfest, the parade and beach dance.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, it was moved by member **Mark Cermak** seconded by member **Mike Shepard** to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried, 5:0