



**MINUTES
PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA
THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2022
6:30 P.M. AT PODVIN PARK**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

Acting Chair Mike Shepard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bryan Belisle, Mark Cermak, Mike Shepard, Anastacia Davis and Ginny Davis

MEMBERS ABSENT: Victoria Biehn, Bill Ganzlin

STAFF PRESENT: Paul Kauppi, Public Works Directory / City Engineer

VISITORS PRESENT: Council Member Heidi Hughes

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by member **Bryan Belisle** seconded by member **Mark Cermak**, to approve the agenda.

Motion carried 5:0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of April 21, 2022

It was moved by member **Bryan Belisle** seconded by member **Ginny Davis**, to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2022 meeting as presented.

Motion carried, 5:0.

4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nothing Scheduled

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing Scheduled

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Pizza Party

The Park Advisory Commission enjoyed a pizza dinner and provided summer updates.

B. Podvin Park Tour

Overall things looked good on the Commission's walk around the park. Podvin Park was

fairly clean with only a few scattered pieces of trash. The Commission questioned whether the open area east of the hockey rink might be a good future location for pickle ball courts.

C. Dog Beach

The discussion started with a summary of dog beach concerns from Councilmember Hughes. Councilmember Hughes asked the commission to consider recommending closing the dog beach at the end of the 2022 season. The concerns consisted of the following:

- Dogs crossing along the shoreline to adjacent private property
- Owners allowing their dogs to go on the swim dock
- Owners not having control of their dogs and having them off leash
- Dogs fighting and being aggressive towards other dogs
- Pet waste left in the area and not picked up
- Busiest times was the weekends, but well used all the time

Councilmember Hughes also asked about other potential areas to relocate the beach to including the area between the Matoska boat launch and the bridge to Manitou Island.

Commission members generally feel that the dog beach is a great amenity to the community and well used. Members had not seen the issues presented other than at times dogs being off leash. It was brought up whether or not the swim dock was appropriate or needed with Memorial Beach just up the road and would remove a conflict point with the dog beach. Commission members felt that they should look into the issue more and make some visits to the dog beach to observe the issues presented. Their personal findings will be brought to the next Commission meeting on August 18, 2022 which will be relocated to Matoska Park so that the dog beach can be visited. A recommended action will be brought to the council once enough research and feedback are gathered.

7. DISCUSSION

A. Staff updates

- Paul updated the Commission on the status of Lion's park restroom and shelter improvements. The shelters have been ordered and should be shipped and installed soon. The design of the restrooms is being refined to better match the available funding.
- Paul discussed the request by Council to receive an annual update from the Parks Commission. More detail to come as far as format and date.

B. Commission member updates – Feedback about Marketfest booth

- Overall Marketfest booth went well and members got some good feedback.
- There were many requests for Pickleball courts to be added to City parks.
- Maps were great but is there a better electronic map / application that could be used to make more mobile friendly with the QR code.
- Staff will review feedback forms and summarize for review at a future meeting.

C. Other Business

- No other discussion

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried, 5:0