



**MINUTES
PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022
6:30 P.M. AT CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**

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, Ginny Davis, Bill Ganzlin, and Mike Shepard

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anastacia Davis

STAFF PRESENT: Andy Wietecki, Parks Working Foreman

VISITORS PRESENT: None

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried 6:0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of October 20, 2022

It was moved by member **Ginny Davis** seconded by member **Victoria Biehn**, to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2022 meeting as presented.

Motion carried, 6:0.

4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nothing Scheduled.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Park Reservation and Rental Fees

Andy Wietecki briefly reviewed the reservation totals and rates at each facility. Most of the discussion surrounded the rates and how affordable the rates are to rent the venue for the entire day. The Commission would like to compare the City's daily rate to the rates of other communities to ensure the City is competitive.

The Commission would like to see some changes made at Boatworks Community Room. Bryan Belisle has had discussions with Mark Sather (former City Manager and resident) and they both agree that the rates for this facility are too high and need to be adjusted. Victoria Biehn also reminded the Commission that she was going to reserve the Boatworks Community Room for an event but decided to choose a different venue

because of the high cost and minimal hours it was available. Bryan would like to see the hours expanded for use especially in the middle of summer. Paul Kauppi reminded the Commission to think about the extended hours as we may not want the room available until 10:00 pm. Extended hours may be a distraction/issue for residents that live there. Victoria asked when the process starts to make the recommended changes for 2024.

B. Dog Beach Memo

Paul Kauppi and the Park Advisory Commission reviewed the memo regarding the dog beach that will be presented at the City Council workshop in January. The memo was discussed and changes were incorporated as agreed upon by the group. Paul will send out the final draft of the memo to the Commission in early December.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Parks Capital Improvement Budget

Andy spoke briefly about the Parks CIP Budget highlighting projects that are necessary but are not in the current budget. Most of the projects that are currently in the CIP Budget are to make repairs on deferred maintenance items with only a few projects that are adding amenities. Andy explained the impacts of the rising costs of good services will likely impact the current budget. Paul suggested that the Commission identify some unfunded projects that are important additions to the community and stressed the importance of requesting additional funding for the Parks CIP budget to allow for adding new items without disrupting the City's current CIP plan. The Park Advisory Commission agreed that one of the biggest unfunded additions would be a new pickle ball court. Andy also mentioned the unfunded rebranding of the City's park signs as a priority. However, we do not want to delay other maintenance that is needed like roofs, painting and adding new trails to add new amenities.

7. DISCUSSION

A. Staff updates

- Lions Park Project Update – Andy updated the Commission that the project is on schedule and will be completed by May of 2023.
- Hidden Hollow Project Update – The weather was not cooperating for paving the Hidden Hollow trail in the fall and will now happen Spring of 2023 when the weather permits.

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried, 6:0