



**MINUTES
PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION
CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA
THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023
6:30 P.M. AT EBBA PARK AT 3450 EBBA STREET**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

Chair Bill Ganzlin called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bryan Belisle, Victoria Biehn, Anastacia Davis, Ginny Davis and Bill Ganzlin,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Cermak and Mike Shepard

STAFF PRESENT: Andy Wietrecki, Parks Working Foreman and Paul Kauppi, Public Works Director/City Engineer

VISITORS PRESENT: Bob Gehrke, Pastor at South Shore Trinity Church

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried 5:0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of April 20, 2023

It was moved by member **Anastacia Davis** seconded by member **Victoria Biehn**, to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2023 meeting.

Motion carried, 5:0.

4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Bob Gehrke, pastor at South Shore Trinity Church, joined the Parks Advisory Commission meeting to discuss the changes the church wishes to make with the City's easement that runs through their property. Bob explained that the trail, Maccallum Street easement, runs through the center of their parking lot. The church would like to relocate and realign it to the far west side of their property. South Shore Trinity Church would like to separate the trail users from the middle of their parking lot which at times cars are parking over. Paul Kauppi explained there is an in-depth process the church needs to go through to make these changes. The Commission seemed okay with the proposals but it is too early in the process to make any recommendations.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing scheduled

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Commission Park Inspection Report Summary

With the wet spring, the Park Advisory Commission decided to move park inspections to July to allow more time and nicer weather to inspect the parks. This year the Commission is also completing their inspections with the Environmental Advisory Commission to evaluate the natural areas in the parks to see where new natural gardens could be installed.

B. Arbor Day Tree Planting

The 2023 Arbor Day Celebration took place at Ebba Park. Andy Wieteki reviewed with the Commission how to properly plant a tree. The trees planted include a lilac tree, Crimson Spire Oak and Aspen tree. The Commission also planted some understory shrubs which include 3 Honey Suckle shrubs and 2 Red Twigged Dog Wood shrubs. These plants will fill in the area where we removed the invasive Buckthorn last summer. The Commission had a successful tree planting event again this year with planting, mulching and watering the new trees.

7. DISCUSSION

A. Staff updates

a. All Abilities Playground Update

The site excavation is complete. The playground installers will be onsite the week of May 29th drilling the holes for the footings. The community build is scheduled for June 3rd and 4th. Following the build, the pour-in-place safety surfacing will be installed with a ribbon cutting ceremony to follow.

B. Commission member updates

The Environmental Advisory Commission will be reaching out directly to the Parks Advisory Commission for the scheduling the joint park tours.

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, 5:0