1. CALL TO ORDER

   Bill Ganzlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Dave Guenther.

   Special welcome to JoAnn Toth, new Park Commission member.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

   Approval of the minutes from November 17, 2011 was moved by Chuck Worthley and seconded by Don Torgerson. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

   Dave Guenther moved to approve the January 19, 2012 agenda, seconded by Chuck Worthley.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

   None.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

   None.

6. NEW BUSINESS

   a) Hidden Hollow Trail Survey

      Commission reviewed neighborhood survey results. Comments included ideas about various park amenities in addition to trail proposal.
• One suggestion would be to get bituminous trail from Myrle to play equipment.
• Bituminous trail improvements to existing trail surfaces would upgrade existing facilities.
• A drinking fountain would be added near play equipment (dog drinking fountain also).
• Parking near park is all “on-street”.
• Parking lot locations were discussed off Myrle or Jay.
• The survey seems to indicate low usage of Hidden Hollow Park.
• Commission thought more use of park should be encouraged by a variety of groups (scouts, churches, etc.).
• Some improvements may be nice – water fountain, reconstruction of existing paved trails, reduced mowing, gravel on NE entrance trail. Add prairie grass areas in park.
• Recommend maintenance of trails, signs and other existing features.
• Entrance sign on South Shore to direct walkers to Hidden Hollow trail might increase public awareness of park.
• Commission will update Comprehensive Plan for park improvements and consider improvements for Hidden Hollow Park in 2013 Plan.

b) Willow Lane School Swing Set Project

Willow Lane School is proposing to add a new swing set on the school grounds and is requesting funding assistance under the City’s program for participating in funding of play equipment on school district property. The swing set is estimated to cost $3,500 with funding coming from the Student Council ($600), the Willow Lane PTO ($2,000) and City ($875). The Commission discussed the proposal and approved a motion (moved by Chuck Worthley, seconded by JoAnn Toth), to recommend approval of City participation to the City Council.

c) Arbor Day – Saturday, May 5, 2012

The Commission discussed possible activities for a 2012 Arbor Day event. The City has traditionally held its Arbor Day Celebration on the first Saturday in May and a variety of projects have been accomplished with participation from many groups and individuals. The Commission brainstormed some ideas for 2012 including Rotary Park; Hidden Hollow planting; lakeshore cleanup; and Lakewood Hills Park, and will discuss further at the February meeting.
7. OTHER STAFF REPORTS

None.

8. COMMISSION REPORTS

None.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on February 16, 2012, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

There being no further business to come before the Park Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Moved by Dave Guenther and seconded by JoAnn Toth. Motion carried.