

Park Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

JANUARY 18, 2018

6:30 P.M.

CITY HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT	Anastacia Davis, Bryan Belisle, Dan Louismet, Mike Shepard, Don Torgerson, Joann Toth
MEMBERS ABSENT	Bill Ganzlin,
STAFF PRESENT	Mark Burch, Jesse Farrell, Mike Natterstad, Samantha Crosby and Connie Taillon
VISITORS	Jullie Drennen with Conversation Minnesota and Sara Markoe Hanson with the White Bear Lake Historical Society
NOTE TAKER	Mark Burch

1. CALL TO ORDER

Dan Louismet called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from November 16, 2017 was moved by Bryan Belisle and seconded by Mike Shepard. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approval of the January 18, 2018 agenda was moved by Bryan Belisle and seconded by Mike Shepard. Motion carried.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Gazebo Renovation

Sara Markoe Hanson from the White Bear Lake Historical Society provided a historical review of the origins and modifications to the gazebo at Matoska Park. Sara reviewed how the gazebo was constructed in 1883 on a private residence on the south end of the White Bear Lake and how it was transported by truck to its current location in Matoska Park. Several restorations have taken place over the years and the gazebo has been modified from its original construction. The Park Advisory Commission is investigating future restoration, preservation or reconstruction options and having the historical perspective provided by Sara will be helpful. The next step is to get the results of a structural analysis currently being undertaken by Braun Intertec.

b) Comprehensive Plan – Sustainability Goals & Objectives

Connie Taillon and Samantha Crosby explained to the Park Advisory Commission that they are working on updating the City's Comprehensive Plan and were seeking input from the Commission on the Sustainability Goals and Objectives section. The Commission offered suggestions such as extending the farmers market season into the winter by holding it inside the Armory, looking at bike rental stations along the Sather Trail and possible golf cart use within the City.

c) Arbor Day Activities – May 5, 2018

The Park Advisory Commission explored possible projects for the 2018 Arbor Day celebration. Ideas included:

- Rotary Park
- Spruce Park – Shade trees
- Matoska Park – Oak trees
- 4th Street Raingarden
- Podvin Park - trees
- Ebba Park – Ash tree replacement
- Tree sapling distribution
- Wood chips at Lakewood Hills
- Business promotion (Big Wood Brewery)

7. OTHER STAFF REPORTS

None.

8. COMMISSION REPORTS

None.

9. OTHER BUSINESS**a) Memorials at Matoska Park**

Mike Natterstad reviewed how the popularity of the memorial bench and tree program is causing problems because we are running out of open space at popular locations such as Matoska Park. The Commission discussed alternatives and decided that the overall Park Memorial Program could use a good review at the February meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on February 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

There being no further business to come before the Park Commission, the meeting was adjourned. Moved by Bryan Belisle and seconded by Joann Toth.