

**Park Board Meeting - July 30, 2001  
Minutes**

The July 30, 2001 City of Lino Lakes Park Board meeting was called to order at 6:30pm, by Acting Chair Taschuk.

Roll call was taken, members present were Paul Montain, Bill Kusterman, Michael O'Connor, and Pam Taschuk. Members absent were George Lindy, Pat Huelman, and Chris Welsand.

Also present were Rick DeGardner, Public Services Director, Sandie Wood, Office Manager.

**APPROVAL OF July 2, 2001 MINUTES:**

Paul Montain made a motion, seconded by Bill Kusterman, to approve the July 2, 2001 minutes. The minutes were approved.

**SETTING THE AGENDA:**

Item 11A, Community Service Award, was added to the agenda.

The agenda was passed as amended.

**OPEN MIKE:**

Rick advised he received a call from a resident regarding a possible Frisbee golf park at Country Lakes Park. He stated Country Parks Lake could not accommodate a Frisbee golf park but the Park Board should keep it in mind for another park at sometime in the future.

No one was present for open mike.

**SKATE PARK UPDATE:**

Rick advised that several developments have occurred since the July 23, 2001 Park Board meeting:

- On July 10, six area youths along with representatives from Skate Wave and himself met to design the new skate park at City Hall Park. An order of approximately \$20,000 of equipment was placed with estimated delivery of August 20.
- Mr. Dan Kieger has approached several organizations to secure funding for the pad. To date they have commitments of \$5,300. The total amount of fundraising should be completed by August 1. We will then determine the appropriate dimensions of the pad and have it installed before the estimated delivery date of the skate park equipment. It is anticipated that City staff and a representative from Skate Wave will assemble the various pieces of equipment.

Rick added that the current proposal calls for a 45 x 60-foot pad at a cost of \$4,000. Mr. Kieger is trying to expand that to 60 x

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80 feet at a cost of \$6,000. It is anticipated that the skate park will be in use by Labor Day.

Bill inquired about the rails relating to safety. Rick advised the rails are 18" off the ground. The park will be considered a Tier 1 facility because nothing will be more than three feet off the ground.

Acting Chair Taschuk referred to the idea of the park being self patrolling and asked if City staff will occasionally be dropping by to check the equipment. Rick stated he has discussed this issue with the Police Department. The CSO will be patrolling the area. The youths involved in the design of the park know that if it is abused it will be removed.

Acting Chair Taschuk asked if the skate park will have the normal park hours and inquired about the nearest pay phone. Rick stated the park will have normal park hours. The nearest pay phone is at the Tom Thumb.

Acting Chair Taschuk suggested the location of a pay phone be considered relating to safety emergencies.

Michael asked if the skate park is just for skateboarding. Rick stated the park is for skateboards and inline skating. Staff is working on signage to indicate what is allowed in the skate park.

Acting Chair Taschuk asked if the neighbors are aware of the skate park. Rick stated the placement of the skate park will be quite a distance from any housing in the area. There will be a major feature article regarding the skate park in the fall newsletter.

Bill inquired about the storage of the equipment in the winter. Rick stated the equipment may be covered with tarps and stored on sight. It is also possible that the equipment will be stored indoors.

**DISCUSS DNR GRANT AWARD (\$125,000) FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CLEARWATER CREEK PARK:**

Rick advised the City of Lino Lakes has been awarded a Department of Natural Resources Outdoor Recreation Grant for the development of Clearwater Creek Park. The \$125,000 grant award will be used to develop various amenities in Clearwater Creek Park. The \$125,000 grant award will be used to develop various amenities in Clearwater Creek Park including site work, landscaping, surveying, a trail, gazebo, playground, basketball, and sand volleyball. Site amenities such as fencing, benches, and signage will also be included. 183 grant applications were submitted to the DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant program. 32 projects were

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funded. Only three projects received a larger grant award than \$125,000.

Staff has recently submitted an Environmental Assessment Statement (EAS) that details whether any natural resources are present on the property and assess the impact of developing Clearwater Creek Park. The City will be evaluated to insure it complies with the DNR financial management guaranteeing that the property will be maintained for outdoor recreational purposes consistent with the approved plan agreement.

Assuming review of the EAS progresses smoothly, staff hopes to begin grading activity and install the trail base this fall.

The Outdoor Recreation Grant is a matching grant meaning the City must commit \$125,000 for development of Clearwater Creek Park. This can consist of funds from the General Fund, Park Dedication Fund, or future bond referendum.

Acting Chair Taschuk inquired about the time period of the grant. Rick stated the time period is three years.

Acting Chair Taschuk congratulated Rick and City staff for their efforts in obtaining the grant.

Bill asked if the City is precluded from using the matching grant money for items such as irrigation. Rick advised the City can not use the matching grant money for items such as irrigation.

Paul inquired about the deed restrictions. Rick stated the city must commit to always using the land for a neighborhood park.

Paul asked if the Council will be matching the grant money. Rick stated the Council has committed to matching the grant. The matching dollars will be discussed at the first budget work session and Council will have to determine where the dollars will come from.

Michael asked if this issue will be in the fall newsletter. Rick stated information and a copy of the master plan will be included in the City newsletter.

**REVIEW GIRL SCOUT SERVICE AWARD PROJECT:**

Rick advised Ashley Grundtner, Lisa Hatlestad, and Esther Neu

have recently completed their service award projects by enhancing the City park system.

Rick reviewed the projects done by each Girl Scout and showed some digital photos of the various projects. He noted Mayor

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Bergeson presented plaques to all three individuals at the July 23 City Council meeting. The plaques will be on display at their respective project sites.

Paul noted the Girl Scouts did an outstanding job on their projects.

**DISCUSS 2001 PARK BOARD TOUR:**

Rick advised the park tour and bbq will be held on Tuesday, September 4, at 5:30pm, sharp. The Park Board will meet at Paul Montain's house. The following sites are on the Park Board tour agenda:

1. Marshan Park
2. Sunrise Park
3. City Hall Park
4. Pheasant Hills Trail

At the conclusion of the park tour, a bbq will be held at Paul Montain's house. If anyone needs directions, please call Sandie Wood at 651-982-2442.

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

Rick referred to the Program Highlights Update from July 2001. He stated as of July 20, 266 children were enrolled full-time in the Summer Playground Program and that 118 daily registrations were received. The WAFD Trips have been going well. Unfortunately, the trip to St. Louis Park Rec Center and Aquatic Park were canceled due to mechanical problems at the pool. The MN Zoo trip was canceled due to low registration.

Rick stated 340 children were registered in the 4 & 5-6 year old T-Ball program. As of July 20, over 100 participants have registered for Safety Camp. Registrations are currently being accepted for the Fall Youth Tackle Football Program and Fall Soccer.

Bill inquired about the location of the football games. Rick indicated the football games will be held at the Centennial Middle School. Practices will be held at various locations.

**PARKS DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

Rick reviewed a memo from Mike Hoffman, Parks Supervisor, which summarizes the maintenance highlights for July 2001. Rick noted July activities included irrigation system maintenance and repair that mainly entailed cleaning or replacing heads and resetting heads to proper grade. The irrigation has been installed at Marshan Park and staff hopes to seed in mid-August.

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Rick noted City staff poured three concrete pads and installed two benches at Clearwater Creek Trail and one at City Hall Park playground.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Community Service Award** - Rick indicated a memo was previously distributed regarding the Community Service Awards. The Administration Director is asking for a volunteer from each City Board to determine the award recipients.

Acting Chair Taschuk stated she was on the committee last year. One meeting was held and the committee reviewed the nominations and determined the recipients. She indicated she would be on the committee again this year.

Bill stated he would like to volunteer to be on the Community Service Award Committee.

It was the consensus of the Park Board to have Bill Kusterman represent the Park Board on the Community Service Award Committee.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Review Possible Condemnation Costs for Birch Park Trail** - Rick stated that after extensive discussion at the July 2 Park Board meeting, City staff was directed to investigate the cost of condemnation and the impact on the remaining property.

Discussions with the City Attorney indicate approximate legal fees for a commission hearing of \$15,000. If the award is appealed and subsequently assigned a jury trial, legal fees could double to approximately \$30,000. Obviously, this is in addition to any cash awards to the existing property owners.

Staff was also directed to determine the impact on the remaining property. Since this is somewhat subjective process and the commissioners are much more versed in determining land values, staff does not feel comfortable identifying a possible land value impact on the remaining property.

Bill asked if the City has received bids for the Pheasant Hills Trail. Rick stated the specs will be ready for bid in two weeks. Paul reviewed the background of the issues relating to the Birch Park trail. He stated the City is in a real dilemma and the Park Board needs to discuss this issue further.

Acting Chair Taschuk asked if this issue can be put on a future Park Board meeting agenda. Rick advised he will put the Birch Park Trail issue on the October 2001 Park Board meeting agenda.

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**SCHEDULE NEXT PARK BOARD MEETING:**

The next Park Board meeting will be held on September 4, 2001,  
5:30 p.m.

**ADJOURN:**

Paul Montain made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Michael  
O'Connor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Points  
Recording Secretary