

**Park Board Meeting - October 4, 2004
Minutes**

The October 4, 2004 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 Pam Taschuk, Katie Boyle, Bill Kusterman, and Paul Montain. Members absent were Pat Huelman, Aaron Frederickson, and George Lindy.

Also present was Rick DeGardner, Public Services Director.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 7, 2004:

Bill Kusterman made a motion, seconded by Katie Boyle, to approve the June 7, 2004 minutes. The minutes were approved.

SETTING THE AGENDA:

There were no changes to the agenda.

OPEN MIKE:

No one was present for open mike.

DETERMINE SKATING RINK LOCATIONS AND HOURS:

Rick advised staff is recommending the following warming house shelters and hours of operation as follows:

PARK	LOCATION	WEEKDAY HOURS	WEEKEND HOURS
Sunrise Park	6918 Sunrise Drive	4-9pm	Saturday 12-9pm
	2 hockey rinks and general skating		Sunday 12-6pm
Birch Park	6520 Pheasant Run S	4-9pm	Saturday 12-9pm
	1 hockey rink and general skating		Sunday 12-6pm

Staff is also recommending the following ice rink locations that do not have shelters:

City Hall Park 1189 Main Street
Hockey rink and general skating

Lino Park 7850 Lake Drive
General skating

Rick noted these are the same locations and hours as last year.

Bill asked if there is a set date to start flooding the rinks. Rick advised the weather would determine when the flooding of the rinks would begin. The City attempts to have the rinks open before the Christmas school breaks.

Paul Montain made a motion, seconded by Bill Kusterman, to approve the recommended shelters and hours of operations. The motion was approved.

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RICE LAKE ESTATES PARK UPDATE:

Rick advised on Wednesday, September 22, he was informed that City of Circle Pines staff removed the playground equipment at Rice Lake Estates Park. He provided a brief summary of the history of the situation noting the property was leased by the City of Lino Lakes from the City of Circle Pines to provide some leisure amenities for residents in the Rice Lake Estates Development. When the lease was discussed in 1998, the City of Circle Pines' future plans for the property was for future commercial and/or industrial development. In 1999, a trail connection from the park area to Baldwin Park (Circle Pines Park) as well as playground equipment and a ½ court basketball court were installed.

On June 29, 2004, staff was informed by Circle Pines staff that they had recently platted this property consisting of 52 single-family homes. Unfortunately, the southern boundary of this subdivision bisects the existing location of the playground structure. Several options were discussed with Circle Pines staff agreeing to resolve this matter to Lino Lakes' satisfaction. Last Wednesday, City staff observed the playground structure being dismantled. Circle Pines staff was immediately contacted to express disappointment on how this was handled.

Consequently, the residents of Rice Lake Estates and City staff were caught off guard with the sudden removal of the equipment. It was staff's intent to notify residents of the situation, including a timeline and how the situation would be resolved, once an action plan from Circle Pines was developed. To date, the City still has not received any communication/correspondence from Circle Pines pertaining to how this matter is going to be resolved.

Rick advised City staff has received several telephone calls from area residents wondering what happened to the playground equipment. Some residents have also contacted the Quad and Star Tribune. Rick suggested a formal position statement from the Park Board may help expedite a workable solution to this situation.

Rick noted the Circle Pines Park Board meeting is scheduled tomorrow evening. This issue is on their agenda for discussion.

Paul clarified that what would happen if the property was sold was not addressed in the lease. He inquired about the City of Lino Lakes getting the park equipment back. Rick advised Circle Pines City staff believes the equipment could be moved and assembled in another location. Rick stated he believes the posts are too worn out to relocate. Playground equipment typically lasts 15 years. There was no type of termination notice in the

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lease. He noted he believes there could be some legal issues. The basketball court will more than likely be removed also. The development is a senior type project with no planned park area. Staff would like the City of Circle Pines to commit to a resolution that Lino Lakes is comfortable with.

Paul asked if staff believes the City of Lino Lakes will get billed for the removal of the equipment. Rick stated he did not think the City would get billed for the removal of the equipment. He stated staff intends on informing the residents in the area when a resolution is agreed on.

Bill stated he believes there should be some sort of reimbursement for the equipment so the City can plan another park area for residents in that area.

Rick suggested getting a commitment from Circle Pines to upgrade Baldwin Park for residents in that area to utilize.

It was the consensus of the Park Board that they want to see funds, at least in the equivalent of the money spent for Rice Lake Estates Park, spent on additional improvements at Baldwin Park. Staff should include a dollar amount in the proposal.

Paul Montain made a motion, seconded by Bill Kusterman, to direct staff to continue to work with Circle Pines to resolve this issue noting that if the situation is not resolved, the City may pursue other options. The motion was approved.

Rick noted the Circle Pines Park Board meeting is tomorrow evening. He stated Park Board Members from Lino Lakes are welcome to attend.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Rick referred to the Program Highlights Flyer from September 2004. He noted a total of 310 participants (grades 2-8) are in fall football - a total of 17 teams. A total of 412 participants (ages 5-12) are in fall soccer this year - equaling 45 total teams.

Rick added the 7th Annual Family Turkey Shoot is scheduled for Saturday, November 13, 2004 from 10 a.m. - Noon at Centennial Middle School. Staff is currently look for volunteers to help with this event.

PARKS DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Rick reviewed a memo from Mike Hoffman, Parks Supervisor, which summarizes the maintenance highlights for September 2004. Rick noted the seasonal staff has left and gone back to school. The turf is growing like crazy and we are trying to cut twice weekly.

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Rick added the development of Clearwater Creek Park is "officially" complete. The park sign was installed, and all trees and shrub beds were sod cut and mulched. A Girl Scout troop helped with the entrance sign project at Highland Meadows Park. The project consisted of site preparation, installation of block, importing additional soil to bed, planting native grasses and wildflowers, and installation of cap block.

NEXT PARK BOARD MEETING:

Acting Chair Taschuk advised the next Park Board meeting would be held on November 1, 2004, 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURN:

Paul Montain made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Katie Boyle. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Points
Recording Secretary

On Page 1, Paragraph 2 Aaron Frederickson's name was spelled incorrectly. These minutes were approved at the October 27, 2004 meeting with that correction made.