

## **City of Lake Elmo Parks Commission Minutes January 18, 2023**

**Members Present:** Commissioners Hoelscher, Kastler, Rivera-Reyes, Bloyer, and Esch  
**Staff Present:** Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel and City Planner Jensen

**The meeting was called to order by Hoelscher at 6:30 PM.**

**Commission welcomed new member Ellen Esch.**

### **Select a Chair and Vice Chair**

**Rivera-Reyes moved to nominate Kastler as Parks Commission Chair, Hoelscher provided a second; discussion. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

**Hoelscher moved to nominate Rivera-Reyes as Commission Vice-Chair, Kastler provided a second; discussion. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

### **Approval of Agenda**

**Hoelscher motioned to approve the agenda as presented, Esch provided a second; no discussion. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

**December 2022 meeting cancelled.**

**Hoelscher motioned to approve the November 21st, 2022 Parks Commission Minutes, Bloyer provided a second; discussion. Hoelscher friendly amended the motion to approve the minutes with paragraph starting ‘Ames’ and ending ‘North Park’ be indicated as being information provided by Mr. Ames as a quote or it needs to be reworded, Kastler provided a second; motions passed unanimously 5-0.**

### **Public Comments**

Jennifer Waters at 4180 Irving Cir N - organizes the Friends of Lake Elmo Pickle Ball. Ms. Waters provided her opinion regarding the consideration of noise level and light pollution in residential neighborhood parks and the amount of people pickleball attracts to one location. She further expressed that each court should be 30x64 feet, have chain-link between the courts and benches provided in a quote. She suggested that courts be in locations like Lions Park, due to the shops being nearby instead of houses, and expressed her great love of the sport.

### **Commissioners Welcome Packet**

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel presented the packet and went over communication requests, CIP, Park Dedication, and the Work Plan. Planned updates are made yearly to the packet, along with any committee changes, and will be presented at the beginning of each year to the commission. Hoelscher noted inconsistency regarding when documents are needed prior to the agenda packet and the day of the week the packet goes out. He asked that it be looked at.

### **January 9<sup>th</sup> 2023 City Council Workshop**

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel summarized the workshop meeting with the council. Discussion regarding how the plan gets determined and how priority levels work. The committee reviewed line items to decide what priority level they should each receive.

**Hoelscher motioned to amend the Park Use Plan to Park Strategic Plan and recommend at least a priority 2, Rivera-Reyes provided a second; discussion. Kastler amended it to priority one, Hoelscher provided a second; all in favor. Motions passed 5-0.**

**Kastler moved to amend the first item listed, Central Greenway Trail Master Plan to a priority 1, Rivera-Reyes provided a second; discussion. All in favor, motion passed 5-0.**

**Kastler motioned to have updated city trail maps a higher priority at level 2, Hoelscher provided a second; discussion. Kastler and Hoelscher aye; Rivera-Reyes, Esch, and Bloyer nay. Motion died 2-3.**

Discussion regarding a buckthorn policy for all city parks. **Esch motioned to add a line item under Nature and Conservation, a project addition that is to consider and manage city natural resources adjacent and within parks and trails inclusive of invasive species and protection of biodiversity set at priority level 4, Rivera-Reyes provided a second; discussion. All in favor, motion passed 5-0.**

**Esch moved to change some of the language under the specific task of Resident Updates to say Update Parks and Trails on the city website and include information about amenities and accessibility, Rivera-Reyes provided a second; discussion. All in favor, motion passed 5-0.**

**Kastler motioned to approve the 2023 Strategic Work Plan as amended, Hoelscher provided a second; no discussion. All in favor, motion passed 5-0.**

#### **Pebble/Tablyn Park Court Bids**

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel provided background information to the commission. Commission discussed the bids and the bidding process.

**Hoelscher motioned to approve the bid presented by Bituminous Roadway, Inc. and Killmer Electric to complete the Pebble and Tablyn courts project, Bloyer provided a second; discussion held. All in favor, motion passed 5-0.**

#### **Communications**

- a) Schiltgen Farmstead PUD and Preliminary Plat were approved at the December City Council Meeting.
- b) Royal Golf 5<sup>th</sup> Final Plat and PUD were approved at the December City Council Meeting.
- c) Parks next meeting will be on a Wednesday due to a holiday.
- d) Pebble Park's well is currently being capped.
- e) Skating rink is closed due to the warm weather.

**A adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rebecca McGuire, Deputy Clerk