

City of Lake Elmo Parks Commission Minutes March 20, 2023

Members Present: Commissioners Rivera-Reyes, Hoelscher, Barrett, Bloyer, and Esch

Absent: Commissioner Kastler

Staff Present: Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel and City Planner Jensen

The meeting was called to order by Rivera-Reyes at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Esch motioned to approve the February 22, 2023 Parks Commission Minutes, Barrett provided a second; no comments. Motion passed 4-0, Bloyer abstained.

Public Comments

Jim Kelly located at 2902 Lisbon Ave N: is one of the Washington County District 3 Parks and Open Space Commission representatives. Mr. Kelly introduced himself, commented about commission meetings and what the commission does, and stated that Lake Elmo has a local voice. Hoelscher provided feedback regarding the need for better communication with the County Trail System Plans.

City Dog Park

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel presented a potential City Dog Park and what that would entail. Commission discussed the site, restroom use, any health concern, and surrounding dog parks.

Esch moved to recommend to the City Council a city dog park and the attached rules be implemented using the existing property located at 4295 Jamaca Ave N once the Fire Department vacates Station #2, Rivera-Reyes provided a second; discussion held. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

Baseball Field Improvements

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel reviewed the improvement options with the commission. Discussion held regarding the CIP, fields, floodplain, timeline, and amenities.

Barrett moved to recommend to the City Council authorizing a request for proposal for design services to be completed on only Reid and Ridge Park for improvements to the baseball field, Hoelscher provided a second; discussion held. Barrett amends the motions to recommend to the City Council authorizing a request for proposal for design services to be completed at Reid Park, Ridge Park, Pebble Park, and Stonegate Park for the improvements of the baseball fields, Esch provided a second; discussion held. Barrett withdrew the amendment. Original motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Communications

- a) Current ice rink will be closing this week.

- b) Hoelscher is requesting an update each meeting on where all these items are at, such as the playground equipment, Dog Park, ADA compliance, etc.
- c) Rivera-Reyes would like an update on the communication strategy as we build more parks and amenities.

Rivera-Reyes adjourned the meeting at 7:54 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca McGuire, Deputy Clerk