

**City of Lake Elmo Parks Commission Minutes
November 20, 2023**

Members Present: Commissioners Kastler, Bloyer, Barrett, Elam, and Esch

Absent: Commissioners Hoelscher

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

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Esch motioned to approve the October 16, 2023 Parks Commission Minutes as presented, Barrett provided a second; no discussion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Public Comments

None

Accept Resignation

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel presented.

Barrett moved to accept Juan Rivera-Reyes' resignation from the Parks Commission, Kastler provided a second; no discussion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Appoint a new Vice-Chair

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel presented.

Esch moved to nominate Pat Barrett as Parks Commission Vice-Chair for the next month or two, Kastler provided a second; discussion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Eberhard Property Sketch Plan – Rachel Development

City Planner Sophia Jensen presented. The development director of the project is seeking clarification from the commission.

Kastler motioned to recommend to the City Council the acceptance of cash in lieu of land based on the findings listed in the staff report, Bloyer provided a second; discussion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

January 9, 2023 City Council Workshop

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel presented. The commission had questions.

Barrett motioned to have the Parks Commission attend the January 9th, 2024 City Council Workshop meeting, Bloyer provided a second; discussion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Communications

- a) Attendance will be verified before the January workshop meeting.
- b) Parks Master Plan Advisory Committee's first meeting was last week and will meet again in January. The survey is located on the city website and is in the weekly Friday newsletter, The Fresh.
- c) Light up Lake Elmo is on December 2nd.

- d) Naming of our new dog park is coming up. Name suggestions may be sent to Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel.
- e) Buckthorn removal is currently in phase 2 and they are applying for phase 3.
- f) Work Plan coming up in December.
- g) Pickleball nets will be removed soon.
- h) Suggestion of amending the name of the Parks Master Plan to the Parks Comprehensive Plan.
- i) Discussed the process of how city parks get named.
- j) Invasive species discussion.
- k) Tree giveaway discussion.
- l) The city now has a YouTube channel.
- m) Recommendation for the city to get an Instagram account.

Kastler adjourned the meeting at 7:07 PM

Respectfully Submitted
Rebecca McGuire, Deputy Clerk