

City of Lake Elmo Parks Commission Minutes
January 17, 2024

Members Present: Commissioners Kastler, Hoelscher, Barrett, Esch, Elam, and Bloyer arrived at 6:35pm.

Absent: none

Staff Present: Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel and Interim Administrator Clark Schroeder

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

Approval of Agenda

Elam motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of expected public comment discussion related to ballparks, added after Dog Park Construction; Barrett provided a second to amend the agenda. No discussion. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

Barrett motioned to approve the December 18th, 2023 Parks Commission Minutes as presented, Elam provided a second; no discussion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Public Comments

Brad Adams located at 4227 Kirkwood Ln N and Todd Bruchu at 3150 Klondike Ave commented on the ballfield condition and potential improvements for Reid Park.

Appoint Chair and Vice Chair

Hoelscher nominated Kastler for 2024 Parks Commission Chair, Barrett provided a second; discussion. Unanimously approved 6-0.

Hoelscher nominated Elam for 2024 Parks Commission Vice Chair, Kastler provided a second; discussion. Unanimously approved 6-0.

January 9th, 2024 City Council Workshop Review

Commission comments regarding the workshop meeting.

Pebble & Demontreville Playground Replacement

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel presented. Commission discussed equipment options.

Esch motioned to direct city staff to gather proposals to update the playsets at Pebble and DeMontreville Parks using the recommendations provided: including considerations of ADA compliance, seating and bench options, and consideration of full user age ranges and diversity of recreation equipment, Bloyer provided a second; discussion. Bloyer friendly amended to word it recreation and fitness equipment, Kastler provided a second; discussion. Both motions passed unanimously 6-0.

Dog Park Name

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel presented. Commission discussed park names.

Hoelscher motioned to recommend to City Council the following names for naming the dog park: first priority is Lake Elmo Dog Park, the following are to be considered at the same priority which is Tri-Lakes Dog Park, Lake Jane Dog Park, Lake Elmo Pup Park, and Lake Elmo Lucky Paws Park; Barrett provided a second. Discussion. Motion approved 6-0.

Dog Park Construction

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel presented. Commission discussed benches, trees, a water station, and funding.

Kastler moved to recommend to City Council the proposed purchases by staff to construct a dog park at 4295 Jamaca Ave and to make requests for donations for benches and trees where feasible, Hoelscher provided a second. Discussion regarding adding tables, pavilion, and additional items such as trees. **Friendly amended to include discussion items. Both motions passed.**

Communications

- a) LE Baseball donation
- b) Invasive species update
- c) Ice rink update

Kastler adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted
Rebecca McGuire, Deputy Clerk