

City of Lake Elmo Parks Commission Minutes
March 18, 2024

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

Absent: Commissioner Bloyer

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

Hoelscher motioned to approve the agenda with correction to the year on the minutes, Elam provided a second; no discussion. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

Hoelscher motioned to approve the February 21, 2024 Parks Commission Minutes as presented, Esch provided a second; no discussion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Public Comments

Susie Dunn, 11018 Upper 33rd ST N, provided comments and concerns regarding Lions Park.

Sunfish Star Gazing Event

Verity Davis, program coordinator for Sunfish Lake Park, provided information on upcoming events. Commission expressed concern regarding night parking and thanked her for providing educational programming.

Tony Manzara, 5050 Kirkwood, provided comments regarding lighting for the parking lot.

Barrett moved to recommend to City Council the request to extend Sunfish Lake Park hours until 10:30pm on October 19, 2024, with October 26th being considered to host a Star Gazing Event, Elam provided a second; discussion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Greenway Trail

Connor, Senior Planner with Washington County, presented project updates. Commission had questions and provided comments.

Pebble Park Playground Replacement

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

Esch moved to recommend to City Council the request to purchase and install a playground set at Pebble Park and to recommend option 3 with the addition of two 2 benches and exploration of removing the voice tube not to exceed 121,000 dollars, Barrett provided a second; no discussion. Unanimously passed 5-0.

Tablyn Park Parking

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel presented. Commission provided comments and had questions.

Esch motioned to table the agenda item of Tablyn Park Parking until after Tablyn Park Amenities agenda item, Hoelscher provided a second; no discussion. Motion approved 5-0.

Tablyn Park Amenities

Assistant Public Works Director Swanepoel presented. Commission discussed current park amenities. Consensus was to not have redundancy in city parks, to remove the basketball court, decide on best course for the ballfield after the pinwheel has been approved by council, keep the open field space, decide

on play structure when it is due for replacement in 2026 – such as replacing it with the dome structure or a fitness park, and would like to see a shade structure in the lower part of the park.

Hoelscher moved to recommend to the city council the proposed extension of the parking lot at Tablyn Park, Elam provided a second; discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

Communications

- a) Ridge Park is the next park walk through.
- b) The donated park bench in Sunfish Lake Park went up today and it looks great.
- c) Fencing started last week in the dog park and benches are installed. Looking at opening in May.
- d) Saturday, April 6th scheduled clean up at Lions Park by Lake Elmo Baseball.

Kastler adjourned the meeting at 8:47 PM

Respectfully Submitted
Rebecca McGuire, Deputy Clerk