

## MINUTES

### City of Lake Elmo Parks Commission

June 11, 2018

**Members Present:** Commissioners Frick, Mayek, Nelson, Nuenfeldt, Olinger, and Weeks

**Members Absent:** Commissioners Ames, Steele and Zeno

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Handt, Public Works Director Weldon, City Planner Prchal

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

#### Approval of Agenda

Frick made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mayek. Motion passed.

#### Approval of Minutes

Frick made a motion to approve the minutes from April and May as amended, seconded by Weeks. Motion passed.

#### Parks Capitol Improvement Plan (CIP)

Prchal presented the numbers of occupied homes in both the Inwood and Wildflower/Village Preserve neighborhoods.

The Commission discussed the ability to establish a trail to access Stonegate and not have the same equipment in both Inwood and Stonegate parks.

They discussed the slope and possible usage of the Wildflower/ Village Preserve park.

Discussing the ability for play equipment in one portion and the rest would likely be open space due to the hills and drainage.

Drew Cavellero, 11336 Blazingstar, reported that he surveyed both the Wildflower and Village Preserve neighborhoods. He surveyed 78 properties. Of those, 70 had children or grandchildren under 17. He asked residents if they currently use parks in Lake Elmo and 39 responded that they do weekly. Respondents said the reason they do not go to the parks more often is location. Only one household surveyed did not support a park in their neighborhood. Eight people wanted open grass and 70 wanted a play structure, including swings, slides, and crawling tubes.

George Johnson, 3070 Lake Elmo Ave. On June 30<sup>th</sup> there is an event to tackle buckthorn in Sunfish Lake Park. He is worried that mountain biking in Sunfish Lake Park is not consistent with the mission and the vision of the City. Sunfish Lake Park is the largest open space within the City. He referenced a survey completed in 2013 that listed mountain biking as a low priority. He is concerned with the City investing in the trails and changing the park for generations.

Weeks asked if we could split the money between two parks. Handt responded that splitting the money would not be recommended since it divides the resources. Inwood Park would require a master plan since it is much larger. Handt said the amount would be \$105,000 and that Game Time has grants available for Play Equipment.

Olinger asked if we could mow a part of the park in Inwood and provide them an open space for now. Weldon explained that currently the City could not mow since the parcel is owned by the developer and has not been turned over to the City yet, but could be done by the HOA if they chose.

Nelson made a motion to start work on the Wildflower/Village Preserve Park in 2019, motion seconded by Mayek. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayek stated that he is not a fan of asphalt and would not like to see Pebble Park parking lot paved, due to run-off and maintenance. Weldon explained that class 5 has to be filled and regraded and it becomes hard packed and an impervious surface over time. Therefore, there still is maintenance and it does create runoff. It would save the City the cost of paving the parking lot and two entrances.

Mayek made a motion to remove the \$47,000 for paving the parking lot at Pebble Park, motion seconded by Frick. Motion passed.

Nelson made a motion to recommend the Park items in the 2019-2023 CIP, seconded by Weeks. Motion passed unanimously.

### **July Meeting Agenda**

45<sup>th</sup> Parallel

Demontreville Park Bids

### **Communications**

Handt asked if the Commission asked if they should review the Parks Ordinance if they ever have a light agenda.

Handt reported that City Council approved the zip line for Savonna Park and it has been ordered.

Weldon reported on the progress of development at Savonna Park.

Nuenfeldt asked about the Adopt-a-Park program.

Weldon reported that two organizations and one family have adopted parks and another group interested. There will be signs that state who has adopted the park and it will be changed every two years.

Handt reported the signs in Lions Park were successful this year and the deadline for this year has been cutoff to allow a reasonable amount of time to display the signs. There are three more interested in next year.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Tanya Nuss**