

MINUTES

City of Lake Elmo Parks Commission December 18, 2017

Members Present: Chair Frick, Commissioners Ames, Mayek, Nelson, Nuenfeldt, Olinger, Pearce, Steele, and Zeno

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Public Works Director Weldon, City Planner Prchal

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

Approval of Agenda

Frick stated the approval of minutes would need to be moved to the January meeting since they were not included in the packet. Motion by Ames to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Steele. Motion passed.

Public Input

Barry Weeks, 3647 Lake Elmo Ave N., wanted to give an update on the improvements to Lion's Park. Grading, sod, irrigation, fences, concrete, lights and the house was removed have all gone in this year. Weeks said it looks nice and wanted to thank the Parks Commission for approvals. He said that the concrete has been poured for the dugouts and they will be completed in the spring. Weeks reported that there has been a number of volunteers and donations, including the concrete that was donated by Cemstone. Weeks mentioned that the Twins baseball team offers up to \$10,000 grant money for ballfields. There are seven signs for the outfield that have been paid for; a total of thirty-five could be installed.

Mountain Biking Trail in Sunfish Lake Park

Tim Wagner, owner of Trail Source discussed his company and the design process they follow. He explained they design contour trails, they are not in a straight line, this cuts down on erosion and maintenance, and people enjoy using them. They make the trails about 3-4 ft. wide and try work around, not eliminate trees. They add wood features for walking trails. They design most of the trails in the winter.

Ames asked about experience with hiking, skiing, and multi-use trails, not just mountain biking. Ames and Frick both would like to see biking and hiking trails separated for safety.

Wagner explained most of the trails they construct are multi-use trails. He stated they would minimize the number of intersections between mountain bike trails and hiking trails.

Ames made a motion to authorize the expenditure of \$1500 to develop a line drawing of mountain bike paths at both Sunfish Lake Park and at Reid Park for us to use for future decision-making. Frick seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2018 Work Plan

During the discussion of the 2018 Work Plan by the Parks Commission it was established that they would like to add the following changes to the 2018 Work Plan:

In the Planning and Policy section: Review master City Trail plan, assess Lake Elmo parks for biking/mountain biking, review a 5 year CIP, add the timeline for Park Master Plan including receive updates on drafted plan, revisit and update the Park Use Plan, look for grant opportunities that aide in the development of parks within the city.

In the Development & Equipping section: Search for grant opportunities such as Fields for Kids for Demontreville Park, add widening of trails to Reid Park.

In the Maintenance & Refurbishing section: Provide a parks needs assessment completed by Public Works staff members.

In the Finance section: Provide quarterly information on funds that are spent and received.

Frick made the motion to accept the 2018 Work Plan with the changes that were discussed. The motion was seconded by Ames. Motion passed.

Staff Reports and Commission Update

None given

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Tanya Nuss**