

FINAL
Lake Elmo Park Commission
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 17, 2008

Secretary Blackford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Ames, Blackford, Adanene, Dunn, Larson, Zeno, Booher.

STAFF PRESENT: Project Assistant Kriegler, Public Works Superintendent Mike Bouthilet

Agenda

Agenda was approved, (M/S Larson / Ames)

Village AUAR Presentation

Klatt presented an update concerning the status of the Village AUAR project. The City Council will be asked to publish the Preliminary AUAR at its next meeting, which if authorized, would mark the beginning of the formal 30-day comment period. It was noted that two representatives from the Park Commission have served on the Village AUAR Advisory Panel; however, these representatives were not present at the meeting (Steele, Bruchu). The Commission asked to be kept informed throughout the AUAR review and adoption process

Klatt was asked how the Parks Commission will be able to provide input. Klatt responded that the Commission may comment during the 30-day review period and could be involved in decisions pertaining to parks during the implementation phases of the Village Plan. The Mitigation Plan is an important element that will ultimately guide the future land use decisions that are made.

T-Mobile cell tower update

Klatt was asked to provide an update concerning the proposed T-Mobile tower near Lake Jane and Sunfish Lake Park. Klatt reported that the Planning Commission had recently conducted a public hearing on this matter and that the Council will likely be reviewing the request at a workshop on December 2, 2008 prior to taking formal action on the proposal. Klatt noted that the towers are a permitted use under the City Code, but limited to specific locations in the City.

Motion: Recommend that the City Council: 1) consider the need for the tower versus the benefits and impacts to the citizens of Lake Elmo, 2) to encourage the Council to explore a more appropriate placement for a tower that is located away from residential and natural areas, and 3) to consider the spirit and intent of the recently approved conservation easement over Sunfish Lake Park, which specifically was implemented to protect and preserve the natural characteristics of the park. (M/S/P, Black/ Ames, 6-0, Booher abstaining)

Consider expenditures related to the fabrication of a map and directional sign system for Sunfish Lake Park

Project Assistant Kriegler presented an updated map for Sunfish Lake Park including identified trails, coded junctions and identified landmarks (parking lot, open fields, power line, etc. Members made several suggestions related to formatting including renaming

the title of the map “Sunfish Lake Park Trails” excluding the word “ski”. Members expressed that the map would be useful for a variety of users, not just skiers. Kriegler presented a couple of fabrication options, one in the price range not too exceed \$2,900, with another in the \$1500 range. Both options included the fabrication of a 3’x4’ map panel to be mounted on the existing map structure in the parking lot. The less expensive option included the mounting of a small map panel mounted on a rectangular backer panel while the more expensive option included a small map panel set into a shaped backer panel with a routed junction number.

Larson expressed an interest in evaluating the quantity and location of the trails and prior to investing in a map sign system.

Motion: Approve the expenditure of \$2,900 for the map panel system with the shaped backer panel.. (M/S/P Ames, Adanene 6-1 with Larson dissenting)

2009 CIP

A proposed 2009 CIP was presented. The program largely reflected a shift of 2008 planned, but incomplete improvements into the future. Several additional proposed improvements were outlined by Mike Bouthilet. The commission expressed their confidence in Mike identifying the maintenance related improvements that should be scheduled in the plan.

Motion: Approve 2009 CIP (M/S/P Larson, Adanene 7-0)

Sunfish Lake Park area 2 park concept plan development.

Delayed until December

Information Items:

Carol Kriegler provided brief updates regarding the very successful recently completed veterans memorial project and on going woodland restoration project. Mike Bouthilet provided a brief update regarding the deer harvest, reporting that the harvest was not as successful as had been hoped. Few deer were harvested over the two week hunt. (36 at Lake Elmo Park Reserve, 4 at Sunfish Lake Park) Commissioners were reminded of the two park related items on the next evening’s council agenda: shelter design development services, Sunfish Lake trail map sign system.

Secretary Blackford called for adjournment at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kriegler
Project Assistant