

Parks and Trails Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 14, 2019, 12:00 pm

Attendees: Merrily Borg Babcock, Mary Bader, Jim McWethy, Sarah Randolph, and Sarah Showalter.

Attending by phone: Chair Dan Baasen.

Staff: Mike Kelly

Guests: Brad Aldrich of Confluence, Jeff Dahl, Wayzata City Manager, resident Greg Flannigan, and resident Dave Langevin.

Absent: Tyler Purdy and Tory Schalkle.

12:05 Meeting called to order.

Chair Baasen asked for approval of agenda.

Babcock asked for motion to amend agenda to include tree tapping, McCormick's Beachside, canoe/kayak racks, Music in Parks series, Minnetonka Community Ed. programming surveys, and touring parks with City Council members. Baasen motioned to approve agenda as amended with comment that it may be necessary to schedule additional meeting later in January to cover items not covered today. Babcock seconded motion and it was unanimously approved.

Motion for approval of 12/12/18 meeting minutes was made by Bader, seconded by McWethy and unanimously approved.

Public Comment

Greg Flannigan, of 331 Park St. recounted concerns raised initially with Jim McWethy. Also in attendance and providing comment was Dave Langevin. Both also have discussed concerns with Mayor Willcox. Flannigan reported multiple residents don't approve of structures being installed in Klappich Park for platform tennis. They have concerns about traffic around park, impact on visual appeal of park, removal of trees, and addition of retaining wall that would result from addition of platform tennis structure. He questioned whether the park would not be a regional destination.

Chair Baasen clarified that Master Parks plan was undertaken at the request of the City Council and the Parks & Trails board serves as an advisor to the City Council and assured them that this will not be the last time the topic is considered. Randolph commented that anything that was possibly desired in the future needs to be included in the Master Parks plan.

Greg Flannigan asked that structure be removed from Master Park plan and the rink be re-oriented.

Dave Langevin, who is a resident across the street from park with his wife and four children ages 4-11, expressed concern that platform tennis structures are unattractive and would detract from park. He feels it should simply be a neighborhood park without so many structures and these proposed attractions are not for neighbors. He encouraged board members to look at other structures.

Showalter thanked them for voicing concerns, if they didn't feel they had an opportunity to raise them earlier in the process. Bader thanked them for raising concern about safety of children, as it was a concern that she had not yet considered.

Mike Kelly provided an email from Klapprich Park resident Matt Brinza voicing concerns about proposed transformation of Klapprich Park.

Old Business

Chair Baasen suggested we recognize Joanie Cunningham's service on the board. Jeff Dahl commented City Council plans to recognize her at the January 22, 2019 meeting. Mike Kelly commented that we can also coordinate recognition, at another time, as a board.

Mike Kelly introduced the process for review of the draft Master Parks plan. Bader began discussion about the draft based upon her memo dated 1/14/19, which she provided to Mike Kelly summarizing her review and conclusion that report is not ready for presentation to Council. Bader questioned whether the report is the consultant's recommendation or whether it is the board's endorsement of the proposed plan. If the latter, we need to work through it section by section.

Mike Kelly responded that at December meeting we discussed getting information from Excelsior, which has since been incorporated.

Randolph suggested that it makes sense to explain what was asked of the board in preparing this report. Benchmark doesn't need to be so central.

McWethy suggested Appendix B needs to be reworked and he has discussed this with chair Baasen. He thinks benchmarks are helpful, but Excelsior info would be more helpful. He endorses plan in concept that it comes from public or board input.

Showalter commented that clarification as to what board approval reflects and uncomfortableness with moving forward with recommending the plan in the current form. Specific question about whether Klapprich Park neighbors were adequately engaged in recommendation to redesign park and that she had never previously heard the concerns from these three neighbors.

Baasen raised concerns over including an executive summary. Concerned about wordsmithing document and suggests moving plan forward even if individuals don't endorsement specific items in plan.

Mike Kelly suggested we may need an open house to reveal Master Park plan. Jeff Dahl commented community has been well engaged but perhaps hasn't had the opportunity to respond to the final product.

McWethy commented that he personally has had conversation with individuals raising concerns about changes to Klapprich Park. Langevin and Flannigan had asked to attend a previous meeting, last winter, for public comment, but didn't show.

Babcock expressed desire to have plan better clarified, particularly regarding funding and partnerships, to inform City Council about Minn. Stat. sec. 462.358. When residents were surveyed during the initial task force, she realized that people didn't realize how park funding happens.

Mike Kelly pointed out that the Master Parks plan was initiated in 2018. Some of the history of the initiatives, funding, and purpose of recommendation may be appropriate for an executive summary and

would catch many of the concerns that are raised. Jeff Dahl assured the Council will read the complete report, not just the executive summary. Bader commented it could focus on the “who, what, where, when and how”.

Mike Kelly, commented that the implementation section will take longer. Board began review of implementation and discussed finer revisions that can be submitted. Kelly reviewed his priority implementation plan. Intention was to put it into the body of the document to show what we intend to see as an initial implementation with costs. Additional project costs can be included in a section at the beginning of the appendix. McWethy had submitted to Kelly proposals on costs of projects organized either by park or by priority.

Discussion around formatting of costs and where to include in plan. Showalter suggested term “priority” be rephrased to “staging” until there is clarification on whether the plan reflects endorsement of board. Staging format can reflect proposed timing for projects in plans and would serve as draft CIP. Report showing costs can be reflected in an appendix. Jeff Dahl indicated there can be clarification that there are funds available to finance project.

Discussion continued regarding benchmarking - communities who responded and who should be used as benchmarks. Agreement by board that inclusion of Excelsior would be useful and plan should eliminate Steamboat, Durango and South Lake Tahoe. Discussed addition of Grosse Pointe, Michigan and Lake Bluff, Illinois. Likely to be placed in the appendix.

Discussion regarding introduction material and what should be included. Bader recommended putting everything not needed in the body of the plan into an appendix.

Mike Kelly said he and Jen thoroughly looked through plan, but he is happy to include revisions so members are encouraged to send them to him.

Discussed plan for continuing conversation about items on amended agenda. Showalter requested process prior to next meeting include cost spreadsheets, Excelsior info, and draft of executive summary.

Summer Parks Programing

Mike Kelly suggested requesting Minnetonka Community Ed. increase participation by 20% and increase in Wayzata resident participation.

Chair Baasen summarized a meeting he had with Wayzata Community Education.

Mike Kelly will send revised copy on January 15, 2019, with additional spreadsheet. Members can send comments back to Mike Kelly prior to next meeting February 21, 2019. He will also send executive summary, when available.

Showalter moved to adjourn. Randolph seconded. Adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Mike Kelly

To: Greg Flannigan
Subject: RE: Klapprich Park Platform Tennis- Neighbor Opposition

From: Greg Flannigan [mailto:GFlannigan@luriellp.com]
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2019 10:30 AM
To: Mike Kelly <mike@wayzata.org>
Cc: Dave Langevin (dmlangevin@gmail.com) <dmlangevin@gmail.com>; Troy Espeseth <troy.espeseth@gmail.com>
Subject: FW: Klapprich Park Platform Tennis- Neighbor Opposition

Mike

I hope you are well. I just learned that you oversee the Wayzata Parks and Trails Board. As you can see below we have been trying to touch base with Chair Bassen to discuss Platform Tennis in Klapprich Park.

We wanted to give a heads up that we would like some time to make public record during the public comment section of the Parks and Trails Board meeting Monday. Please make certain that Chair Bassen and the board is aware and chair Bassen contact me on my cell at 612-227-7446 should he want to discuss.

Please also make sure that my below communication from 12/20/2018 at 9:36AM is entered into the public record and meeting minutes for this meeting.

I appreciate your time and have a great weekend.

Gregory S. Flannigan, CPA • Partner
0/612.381.8755 • F/612.746.6255 • LurieLLP.com

Executive Assistant:
Meg Wernimont • 0/612.381.8849 • mwernimont@luriellp.com



From: Greg Flannigan
Sent: January 10, 2019 12:34 PM
To: 'David Langevin' <dmlangevin@gmail.com>
Cc: kwilcox@wayzata.org; Jeffrey Buchanan <jeffreybuchanan@wayzata.org>; dankoch@wayzata.org; johannamccarthy@wayzata.org; Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; styacke@wayzata.org; Troy Espeseth <troy.espeseth@gmail.com>; saveklapprich@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Klapprich Park Platform Tennis- Neighbor Opposition

All

Please advise how we get in contact with Chair Dan Baasen at your earliest opportunity?

I would like to talk with him prior to attending the 1/14/2018 meeting at 12pm. In order for us to take time out of our work day to attend in person we would like to make certain we will have adequate time

during the public comment section of the meeting to fully express our concerns for the third time to this Board.

Thank you for your time.

Gregory S. Flannigan, CPA • Partner
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Executive Assistant:
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From: David Langevin [<mailto:dmlangevin@gmail.com>]

Sent: January 10, 2019 10:38 AM

To: Greg Flannigan <GFlannigan@luriellp.com>

Cc: kwilcox@wayzata.org; Jeffrey Buchanan <jeffreybuchanan@wayzata.org>; dankoch@wayzata.org; johannamccarthy@wayzata.org; Alex Plechash <alexplechash@wayzata.org>; styacke@wayzata.org; Troy Espeseth <troy.espeseth@gmail.com>; saveklapprich@gmail.com

Subject: Re: Klapprich Park Platform Tennis- Neighbor Opposition

Was there ever a response to this email, or an attempt to coordinate a meeting? A review of the most recent Wayzata Parks and Trails Board Meeting Agenda suggests the Park and Trail Board is not on the same page as the residents of Wayzata, and a meeting should occur as soon as possible. Thank you.

On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 9:36 AM Greg Flannigan <GFlannigan@luriellp.com> wrote:

Mayor Wilcox and City Council Members

I hope you are all well coming into year end and the Holidays.

You are receiving this email as proxy for the Wayzata Parks and Trails Board as there does not seem to be any way to contact the members of the Parks and Trails Board directly through the City of Wayzata. As such, I would like this communication to be shared with each of the Parks and Trails Board members and entered into their materials as public record for consumption by the public.

Along with our own personal concerns, as direct neighbors of Klapprich Park, we continue to hear that many of the residents that abut and live close to Klapprich Park, those who see the park from inside their houses, use the park regularly and drive past the park multiple times a day, continue to be concerned about the Parks and Trails Board's continued insistence of including Platform Tennis structures in highly visible areas of Wayzata's main park asset as part of their long range parks plan scheduled to be constructed in 2019. To be sure we all understand, a Platform Tennis structure consists of painted wood, chicken wire and a metal pole structure that is approximately 20+ ft. off the ground or higher along with light stanchions that protrude even higher.

As Mayor Wilcox may recall from our meeting with the Mayor months back, Dave Langevin and I voiced our original concerns directly to Jim McWethy when he approached us to gain feedback on Platform Tennis in Klapprich Park. We appreciated Mayor Wilcox's willingness to listen to our concerns and his time in hearing these concerns. He informed us at that time that the P&T Board was working on a long range plan.

We waited patiently to see the long range plan that the P&T Board was working towards. Once that was available for public consumption we continued to oppose platform tennis in Klapprich Park. When public comments were asked for regarding the long range plan we voiced our concerns in that forum specifically regarding Platform Tennis.

We continue to strongly oppose the eye sore of a structure that are Platform Tennis courts in Klapprich Park. We ask that the Parks and Trails Board hold a meeting with the residents of Park St., Barry Ave., Gardner St. and Minnetonka Ave. specifically related to Platform Tennis so that they may hear our concerns directly. In this instance our feeling is that the desires of a few enthusiastic Platform Tennis playing board members are working against the clearly stated concerns of the affected Wayzata residents.

As representatives of the City that oversees the Parks and Trails Board, please ask Executive Board Chair, Dan Bassen, to contact me directly to arrange a neighborhood discussion or to invite us to their next public forum meeting in order for us to have a robust discussion on this specific topic.

Thank you all for your time and your service.

Gregory S. Flannigan, CPA • Partner

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Thank you,

LURIE, LLP

Mike Kelly

To: Jeffrey Dahl; Dan Baasen
Subject: RE: Klapprich Park Plan

From: brinzamatt <brinzamatt@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 13, 2019 6:11 PM
To: Ken Willcox; Dan Koch; Johanna McCarthy; Alex Plechash; jefferybuchanan@wayzata.org
Cc: deanna.brinza@gmail.com
Subject: Klapprich Park Plan

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am writing in regards to the most recent plan for redeveloping Klapprich Park. As a resident of the "water tower" neighborhood, my family and I use or walk by the park daily.

As the City continues to develop and become a regional destination, I feel it is important you keep in mind the concerns of the year-round residents and families that call this City and neighborhood home. With this in mind, I ask that you also consider the plans for Klapprich Park and any limit any improvements so that it remains similar to the quaint neighborhood park it is today.

In particular, the proposed Platform Tennis, Basketball Court, Fire Pit and On-Street Parking will transform this neighborhood park used primarily by surrounding residents into a regional destination that is detrimental to the neighborhood's safety and character.

I ask that you please keep the neighborhood safe, charming and have Klapprich Park remain a local, peaceful park for the neighborhood to enjoy.

Best Regards,

Matthew & Deanna Brinza
315 Park Street E
Wayzata, MN

To: Wayzata Parks and Trails Board
cc: Mike Kelly, Confluence
From: Mary Bader, Parks and Trails Board member
Date: January 14, 2019
Re: Current version of Parks and Trails Master Plan

What is positive about the plan?

- Plan locates city park and trail assets within the overall vision for Wayzata's future.
- Plan suggests numerous ideas for using these assets to contribute to that vision.
- Plan incorporates Lake Effect project within overall park planning.
- Most of the photos are local. (All should be.)

What needs additional work?

- Report could benefit from a succinct executive summary.
- Recommendations need more emphasis about maintenance and sustainability.
- Benchmark analysis should be eliminated or at least moved entirely to appendix, as it does not include the relevant communities we specified. It also has at least one significant error in it.*
- Much of the first section of the report feels like boilerplate writing and may not be useful to us, e.g. definition section is overly long and could be moved to appendix.

Steps forward

- Plan is not ready for presentation to council on Jan. 22. *This plan should not be rushed.*
- Board must discuss whether the report reflects the board's recommendations or merely the consultants' recommendations. If the board intends to endorse the recommendations contained in the master plan, then we should require that the board has a section-by-section, formal vote on all recommendations. We have not done that yet.
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* The report severely underestimated the number of volunteer hours as 250. The volunteer coordinator's most recent report to the City Council said Wayzata has close to 400 volunteers; they clocked 4200 hours of work, saving the City \$100,000 in volunteer equivalency hours.