

## **Parks and Trails Board Meeting Minutes**

*Thursday, February 21, 2019, 6:00pm*

**Attendees:** Dan Baasen, Merrily Borg Babcock, Mary Bader, Jim McWethy, Tyler Purdy, Tory Schalkle, Sarah Showalter

**Staff:** Mike Kelly

**Guests:** Peter Hitch, Ken and Sue Sorenson, Steve and Kristine Niehaus, Mark and Celeste Argento

**Absent:** Sarah Randolph

### **Minutes:**

- **Call to Order:** Chair Baasen called meeting to order at 6:06 pm.
- **Approval of Agenda:** Mr. McWethy moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Mr. Purdy seconded. Motion approved 7-0.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Babcock moved to approve minutes, as presented and Mr. McWethy seconded. Motion approved 7-0.
- **Public Comments:** Central Ave residents Ken and Sue Sorenson, Steve and Kristine Niehaus, Mark and Celeste Argento attended. Mr. Sorenson stood to give input on Little Beach portion of Master Plan. Specifically, he cited enthusiasm about future potential for Little Beach swimming area with tactics such as weed maintenance, canoe/kayak storage, landscaping, lighting access, and larger docks. Chair Baasen noted this area was technically a fire lane, which had thwarted prior interest from sailing school. Ms. Babcock cited future plans for a kayak and racks at the beach, bike stands, and benches. She also cited prior efforts to clean the area. Ms. Sorenson said there would be volunteers for weed/litter maintenance if that's what is needed. Chair Baasen noted Little Beach improvement elements in Master Plan, and possibility of interim cleanup. Mr. Kelly mentioned they would likely not be able to put sand in beach, given Lake Minnetonka sand restrictions, and that the city does not manage weeds (noting this responsibility was on LMCD). Chair Baasen confirmed that none of the aforementioned suggestions would be opposed by the LMCD, and that the timing was good, although any changes wouldn't be likely until 2020. Mr. Kelly noted they likely wouldn't hard surface to the lake, but that sailing center redevelopment may have some parking spots that would be paved.
- **Old Business:** Chair Baasen recommended moving Master Plan to City Council. Ms. Babcock cited desire to make some changes, although there was large agreement of need to finalize plan and push forward. Committee discussed changes to Plan that are needed before submitting to City Council. Chair Baasen moved to clarify that funding (noted in second paragraph of Executive Summary) also

include park dedication fees. Ms. Randolph, Ms. Showalter, and Ms. Babcock submitted self-admittedly minor changes (largely wording- and format-related).

Vote taken whether naming would be Post Office Park vs. Post Office Pocket Park; "Post Office Park" carried the majority.

Ms. Babcock made motion to approve Master Plan, as amended, to City Council. Mr. McWethy seconded motion. Motion approved 7-0.

Ms. Bader made motion to make Master Plan available online for public comment (promoted through various channels; with respondents' location identified), with goal to present Master Plan and survey results to City Council on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Purdy seconded. Motion approved 7-0.

- **New Business:**

- Minnetonka Community Ed Summer program partnership: Council and mayor had questioned whether low resident participation was worth cost.
- Ms. Babcock noted 79 people (sold out) are registered for the Maple Tree Tapping, which may occur in early or mid-March (weather dependent).
- Mr. Purdy recapped that Sunday Music in the Park now has 5 potential bands, pending final budget. Discussion about additional transition from Chamber to Rotary Club, and its implications.
- Mr. Kelly provided drawings for Three Rivers Park District Dakota Rail Trail Extension, and a summary of the options and City Council's discussion/opinions on them.
- Mr. Kelly provided updated financials coming from our partnership with McCormick's on the Concession Stand. Mr. Kelly to discuss future plans and partnership with Tim, including potential cross-marketing efforts and broader event participation.

- **Other Business:** Committee informally confirmed March meeting should be on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

- **Adjourn:** Mr. Purdy made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm. Mr. McWethy seconded. Motion approved 7-0.