



Parks and Trails Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 20, 2022

Attendees: Chair Tory Schalkle, Vice Chair Merrily Babcock, Jon Erickson, Sarah Showalter, and Graciela Gonzalez

Staff: Parks Planner, Nick Kieser

Absent: Sarah Randolph, and Ty Purdy

Guests: Council Member Cathy Iverson and Peter Hitch

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Schalkle called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** A motion to accept the agenda by Chair Schalkle and seconded by Gonzalez. Approved 5-0.
3. **Approval of the Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes as amended by Tory Schalkle and seconded by Erickson. Approved 5-0.
4. **Public Comments:** No public comments were given.
5. **Old Business.**
 - a. **Review Klapprich Park Playground:** The Board discussed the pros and cons for going out for a new RFP for the new scope of the Klapprich Park playground or staying with the current agreement with MN/WI. The RFP process would take longer from a timing perspective, but would allow for additional proposals to be reviewed by the Board.

Staff and the Board summarized the survey results and the comments heard from the open house. The results were attached to the agenda packet for review. From the open house, the Board heard a common theme of natural play in the playground. The new proposals should also make sure the new playground works well with the topography of the site.

Discussion of the other improvements to Klapprich Park as a whole such as; expand warming house, drainage/grading, changing sand to chips, place a boardwalk on the east side of the Park so they do not damage the trees.

Schalkle made a motion to send a new RFP to Council for approval to elicit new proposals for the Klapprich Park playground. Seconded by Showalter. Motion passed 3-2.

- b. **Finalize Parks and Trails Brochure:** The Board discussed the new parks and trails brochure and potential changes to the brochure. Schalkle made a motion to approve the brochure with the amendments to strike nature preserve label and to put a green area in for Little Woods. Seconded by Showalter. Motion passed 4-1.
- c. **JJ Hill Days Review:** Babcock gave a recap of the Parks and Trails booth at JJ Hill Days. Babcock brought the engagement boards that were at the booth that received votes from 185 people. The votes showed that most residents visited Wayzata Beach. The top four most voted for projects were; pickleball and tennis combination at Bell Courts, canoe or paddle boat rental, climbing structures for kids, and wooden boardwalk around the nature center.

The Board noted that the public were receptive for the Parks and Trails booth. There was some difficulty to draw participants into the booth so there could be options for more engagement activities/snacks in the future. The Board noted that the JJ Hill Days participation determination should be moved to May in the work plan.

- d. **Big Woods Update:** John Curtis met directly with the Director of The Retreat at the Big Woods regarding the issues that were seen on the property.
- e. **Approve Updated Platform Tennis Proposed Agreement Terms:** Schalkle gave a brief update on the proposed updated term sheet and documents that were sent over by Peter Hitch. Staff noted that a meeting has been set up with the City Attorney to review the draft agreement documents and make the next steps for this project.

The Board discussed if this type of project made any revenue for the City. The priority should be to put any kind of revenue towards operations and maintenance of the project. There was concern brought up was that the City would be paying part of the maintenance costs.

Schalkle made a motion to send the proposed agreement documents to the City Attorney as is with the concern addressed of the maintenance costs that the City would endure, seconded by Gonzalez. Motion passed 5-0.

6. **New Business.**

- a. **Memorial Tree Program:** Babcock stated that a program or initiative could be pursued for the Memorial Tree Program. Staff noted that this type of program would need to go to Council for approval. The applicant would work with Public Works staff to determine the best location, species of the tree, etc.

Babcock will work to put together a proposal to send to staff. Jan Himan, Kathy Jones, and various other stakeholders to be on a Committee to help run the program.

- b. **Park Dedication Fees:** Staff went over the park dedication fees. Babcock gave comments that it could be helpful to separate out the Parks and Trails CIP for the

maintenance/operating items and the capital improvements to the park system. i.e. dredging of the channel vs. Klapprich park playground update.

- c. **CIP Discussion:** Reduce the discretionary spending like on the maintenance. Pickleball has been a significant priority on pickleball so that should be brought up. The main three priorities for the Board are the Klapprich Park playground update, platform tennis, and the update of the tennis courts with the inclusion of pickleball. The items that were not as high of a priority were the sidewalk updates, nature center items, and wayfinding signage. Staff noted that the Council will discuss the updated 2023 CIP at the October 18 Council workshop.

Schalkle made a motion to move pickleball construction at Bell Courts to an earlier year. Seconded by Showalter. Motion passed 5-0.

- d. **P&T Board Work Plan:** No additional updates. Staff will move the JJ Hill Days booth participation determination to May.
- e. **Staff Updates:** Babcock gave an update of Sunday Music in the Park. The participants of each concert were; Blue Groove Bluegrass Band 202 people, Wailing Loons 175 people, Ditchweed/Power Balladz 224-273, and Westwind Swing Band 184-201.

- 7. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 PM