

City of Excelsior
Park and Recreation Commission

Minutes

August 9, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wentz called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Alderink, Filippi, Roberts, Rude, Schmidt, and Chair Wentz

Commissioners Absent: Wolfe, Roberts

Also present: Public Works Superintendent Wisdorf

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Rude moved, Commissioner Filippi seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5/0.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Park & Recreation Commission Meeting – July 12, 2011

Commissioner Rude moved, Chair Wentz seconded, to approve the Minutes from the July 12, 2011 Park and Recreation Commission meeting as presented. Motion carried 5/0.

5. CITIZEN REPORTS or COMMENTS

None

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Use of Excelsior Parkland

At the August 9, 2011 meeting, the Park and Recreation Commission discussed capital improvements for Excelsior Parkland. One item that was listed in the 2009 Master Park Plan was a dog park.

Wisdorf reported that he had secured a bid for fencing for the dog park for vinyl coated chain link fence, which came in at around \$10,905. He said the cost for a sign for the park could be up to \$25,000 and then there would also need to be a specific sign for the dog park.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Use of Excelsior Parkland – (Continued)

Commissioner Filippi moved, Commissioner Alderink seconded, to forward the recommendation to the City Council that plans be developed to install a dog park in Excelsior Parkland. Motion carried 5/0.

b. Request to Rename Excelsior Parkland

Wisdorf reported that the City Council considered the request to rename Excelsior Parkland at the August 1, 2011 Council meeting. The Council directed staff to draft a resolution to be placed on the Consent Agenda of the August 15, 2011 Council meeting to rename Excelsior Parkland to "Excelsior Studer Park".

c. Bandshell Subcommittee

Schmidt updated the Commission on the Bandshell Subcommittee meetings. He stated that the Bandshell Subcommittee members are looking at raising a minimum of \$1 million toward the improvements.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Bicycles in The Commons

Wisdorf distributed the City's ordinances with regard to bicycles on the sidewalks in the park.

Commissioners discussed the possibility of adding a bike trail in The Commons and whether is it enough of a problem that the City should address it?

Rude said that she thinks pedestrian and bike traffic will increase in Excelsior in the future. She questioned whether the City should look at adding a bike path on Lake Street and make Lake Street a one-way along The Commons.

Schmidt said he would like to see the existing sidewalk widened.

Rude suggested bringing in expert consultants and getting a study done. Have a consultant explore shoreline development and funding of additional walkways and also get landscaping recommendations from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.

The Commission requested that staff place this item on the September agenda for further discussion.

8. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

a. Park and Recreation Accounts

Commissioner Rude moved, Commissioner Alderink seconded, to approve the Monthly Park and Recreation Financial Reports as presented. Motion carried 5/0.

9. MISCELLANEOUS / COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

a. Recent City Council Actions

Wisdorf updated Commissioners on recent City Council actions.

b. Special Meeting for Annual Park Walkthrough

The Park and Recreation Commission requested that staff post notice for a special meeting to be held on Monday, August 29, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. for the Annual Park Walkthrough.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Schmidt moved, Chair Wentz seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:39. Motion carried 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Alderink
Secretary