

City of Excelsior
Park and Recreation Commission

Minutes

October 11, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Wentz called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Alderink, Filippi, Schmidt, Wolfe, and Chair Wentz

Commissioners Absent: Roberts and Rude

Also present: Public Works Superintendent Wisdorf

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Alderink moved, Commissioner Schmidt seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5/0.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Park & Recreation Commission Meeting – September 13, 2011

Commissioner Filippi moved, Commissioner Wolfe seconded, to approve the Minutes from the September 13, 2011 Park and Recreation Commission meeting as presented. Motion carried 5/0.

b. Park & Recreation Commission Special Meeting – September 22, 2011

Several corrections were submitted to the Minutes: Filippi was present, the motion for agenda approval should be 5/0, a 5/0 vote should be reflected for the motion under Item 3, and Doug Schmidt was the Acting Secretary for the meeting.

Commissioner Alderink moved, Commissioner Filippi seconded, to approve the Minutes from the September 22, 2011 Special Meeting as amended. Motion carried 5/0.

4. CITIZEN REPORTS or COMMENTS

None

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Use of Excelsior Studer Park – Explore Dog Park

Alderink reported that she had spoken with Dr. Waples, owner of the Excelsior Animal Hospital and Excelsior resident, on the phone and Dr. Waples had voiced a number of concerns with regard to the dog park.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Use of Excelsior Studer Park – Explore Dog Park – (Continued)

The concerns identified by Dr. Waples included: injuries to dogs; monitoring and maintenance of the park; having a small dog area available that is separate from the main area; unlicensed dogs; access issues, parking, safety for walkers crossing 19 without a crosswalk; and dogs defecating in the gardens and causing a human health issue.

Alderink said that the fence around the community gardens that is proposed to be built will address the concern with dogs defecating in the gardens.

Commissioner Alderink moved, Commissioner Schmidt seconded, to forward the recommendation to the City Council to move forward with the design plans for a dog park at Excelsior Studer Park. Motion carried 5/0.

b. Explore Expanding Sidewalk and Adding Walkway in The Commons

The Commissioners expressed aesthetic concerns with adding new concrete to the old to expand the sidewalk area. It was noted that the worst congestion is between Tommy's Trolley and the art sculpture. It is cost prohibitive to install the sidewalk; this topic should be discussed as part of the overall vision for The Commons. The Commission will pick up this discussion again at the Commission's February meeting.

c. Minnesota Hockey Day Event, January 21, 2012

Alderink and Wisdorf gave an update on the October 11, 2011 meeting for the "Hockey Blast" event to be held in Excelsior the weekend of January 20 – 22, 2012.

Commissioners expressed some concern with the condition of the park after the event is held with regards to tree removal and damage from the rinks. It was noted that the issue of tree removal has yet to be resolved. A professional landscaping company will be hired by the Hockey Day Minnesota Committee to repair any damage caused from the event in the spring. An organization has also been contracted with to clean up the ice area following the Pond Hockey event, which should alleviate the issues that occurred last year when debris was left in the ice on the lake.

d. Update from Committee for Better Lake Minnetonka Band Shell

Commissioners Schmidt and Wolfe reported that the City Council had accepted the Commission's recommendation to approve the proposal from Excelsior Bay Group, LLC for a cost of \$16,000, with the Excelsior Rotary Clubs paying \$8,000 and the City of Excelsior paying \$8,000.

8. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Commissioner Filippi moved, Commissioner Wolfe seconded, to accept the financial reports. Motion carried 5/0

9. MISCELLANEOUS / COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

a. Recent City Council Actions

Wisdorf updated Commissioners on recent City Council actions.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Filippi moved, Commissioner Alderink seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35. Motion carried 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Alderink", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Heather Alderink
Secretary