

City of Excelsior
Park and Recreation Commission

Minutes

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Beattie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Filippi, Rude, Schmidt, Wolfe, and Acting Chair Beattie

Also present: Public Works Superintendent Wisdorf

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Filippi moved, Commissioner Wolfe seconded, to add Items 4(b) Election of Officers, and 7(a) Canoe/Kayak Rack, and approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 5/0.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Park & Recreation Commission Meeting – February 16, 2012

Commissioner Schmidt moved, Commissioner Wolfe seconded, to approve the meeting minutes from the February 16, 2012 meeting as presented. Motion carried 5/0.

b. Election of Officers

Commissioner Beattie moved to elect Commissioner Schmidt as Chair and Commissioner Rude as Vice-Chair. Motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Schmidt moved, Commissioner Wolfe seconded, to elect Commissioner Beattie as Chair and Commissioner Rude as Vice Chair. Motion carried 5/0.

5. CITIZEN REPORTS or COMMENTS

None

Commissioner Schmidt moved, Commissioner Wolfe seconded, to move Items 6(b) and 6(e) up on the agenda before Item 6(a), Mark Nasset can address these items with the Commission. Motion carried 5/0.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

b. Refuse Facility at the Port of Excelsior

Mark Nessel, Nessel Architecture, reviewed the plan that he had developed for the City in December 2007. The estimated cost to build the enclosure would be between \$40,000 and \$45,000, depending on how elaborate the metal gates would be.

Commissioner Wolfe moved, Chair Beattie seconded, to recommend to the Council that it authorize the Park and Recreation commission to explore the replacement of the refuse facility at the Port. The request for funding would be between \$5,000 and \$15,000, with \$5,000 being paid from the Park Improvement Fund and the remainder paid from the Dock Fund. Motion carried 5/0.

e. Update from Committee for Better Lake Minnetonka Band Shell

Mark Nessel reported that Kim Snyder is still working on the study for financing. The study is not expected to be completed until sometime in April.

a. Third Street Fire Lane Proposed Landscaping Plan

Wisdorf reported that the City Council has directed staff to initiate a community engagement process to define potential solutions, engage the stakeholders, identify the issues, develop potential solutions, and return to the City Council with proposed solutions.

Commissioner Schmidt moved, Commissioner Rude seconded, to request that the Council assigned a member from the Park and Recreation Commission to the citizens committee for the Third Street Fire Lane and that the committee look into removing "fire lane" designation and change area to a park or green space. Motion carried 5/0.

c. Volunteer Opportunities for Adopting a Flower Bed in The Commons

Rude handed out guidelines for volunteers and a garden design proposal for Excelsior Public Gardens.

Commissioners discussed the proposal for public gardens. A total of 14 sites were identified as possible garden sites.

Commissioner Wolfe moved, Commissioner Schmidt seconded, to continue discussions with Jan Klaus about specific garden areas in The Commons. Motion carried 5/0.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

d. Hennepin County Grants – Pedestrian/Bike Plan

Rude distributed information on Hennepin County Grants.

Commissioners discussed an access off the bike trail at Excelsior Boulevard and along Mill Street from the City limits to five corners.

The Commission requested that Wisdorf provide an update on the City Planner and details on what the Met Council's sewer force main design may be on Excelsior Boulevard.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Canoe/Kayak Rack

Schmidt provided information on the racks that the City of Deephaven has for canoes and kayaks.

Commissioners discussed placing a similar canoe/kayak rack in The Commons by the small beach. If the rack is placed on land Lake Minnetonka Conservation District approval is not required.

Commissioner Rude moved, Commissioner Schmidt seconded, to recommend to the Council that two racks be purchased and placed in The Commons next to the small beach. Motion carried 5/0.

The Commission requested that a recommendation on rental rates for spaces on the canoe/kayak rack be placed on the April agenda.

8. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

a. Park and Recreation Accounts

Staff informed the Commission that financial reports would not be available until the Finance Officer position is filled.

Commissioner Wolfe moved, Commissioner Filippi seconded, to extend the meeting to 9:15 p.m. Motion carried 5/0.

9. MISCELLANEOUS / COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

a. Recent City Council Actions

Wisdorf provided a brief update on recent City Council actions.

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10. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Filippi moved, Commissioner Rude seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m. Motion carried 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Wisdorf
Acting Secretary