

City of Excelsior  
Park and Recreation Commission  
Minutes  
Tuesday, August 14, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Rude called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Filippi, Mullenbach, Norman, Schmidt, Wolfe, and Vice Chair Rude

Commissioners Absent: Beattie

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Wolfe moved, Commissioner Filippi seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 6/0.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Park & Recreation Commission Meeting – July 10, 2012

Commissioner Wolfe moved, Commissioner Filippi seconded, to approve the Park and Recreation Commission Minutes for July 10, 2012. Motion carried 6/0.

4. CITIZEN REPORTS or COMMENTS

None.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Adopt a Flower Bed in The Commons

A subcommittee consisting of Commissioners Wolfe, Norman, and Schmidt will continue their efforts to draft the agreement for volunteers who adopt a flower bed to be presented to the Commission at the September meeting.

Commissioner Wolfe presented a proposal for improving the area around the Port of Excelsior with paver bricking the area. The estimated cost for the paver bricks was \$15,200 and the estimated cost of replacing the edging with boulders was estimated at \$2,000.

Commissioner Schmidt raised the issue of the garbage storage area at the Port again.

Commissioner Filippi moved, Commissioner Wolfe seconded, to move forward to prepare a proposal to the City Council for the paver bricking of the Port and the replacement of the edging, and to appoint Commissioner Wolfe as

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Adopt a Flower Bed in The Commons – (Continued)

the Commission's liaison to the City Council to present the proposal. Motion carried 6/0.

Commissioners Wolfe and Schmidt volunteered to go to the Port to do measurements and work on the preparation of the proposal.

Wisdorf suggested that the Commission consider a donation program with bricks engraved with the names of the donors

b. Concerts in the Park

City staff provided a report consisting of a chart summarizing the 2012 Summer concerts with information regarding the concert date, identity of the band, time of presentation, type of music, cost, sponsorship, and the cost of sponsorship.

Tommy Drummond, Tommy's Tonka Trolley, reported on his efforts and involvement with the concert series. He recommended the continuation of the concert series for the summer of 2013 and suggested that there is a need for better promotion. He suggested that it is necessary to move quickly in the next several months to make booking arrangements for the bands.

The Commission discussed the issues of whether the concert should be continued, the need for promotion, the selection of what night of the week should be utilized, and how many concerts there should be (i.e. weekly, biweekly, etc.).

Commissioner Filippi moved, Commissioner Norman seconded, to forward the recommend to the City Council that the concerts in the park continue for the Summer of 2013 in generally the same format. A total of \$6,000 was requested for funding the concerts in 2013, with emphasis on better promotion and reconsideration of the issue at the Commission's September meeting. Motion carried 6/0.

c. Reforestation

Wisdorf presented a copy of the tree and shrub planning and protection standards of the City of Excelsior Minnesota for review of by the Commission. The standards will be used for future consideration of a reforestation project to replace the trees that have been lost in The Commons.

A question was asked regarding the Ash Borer problem. Wisdorf said that Ash trees are already on the "undesirable list" and that the City should be safe in simply waiting until the Ash Borer infestation advances closer to this area.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

c. Reforestation – (Continued)

Wisdorf indicated that the Sandal Marking Study will likely include recommendations focusing on The Commons and that report is due in mid-September. It was a general consensus that the Sandal Marketing Study will largely influence the future direction of the Park and Recreation Commission.

d. Bike Trail and Sidewalk Input for Met Council "Force Main" Project

Rude reported that she had met with the City Planner, Lane Braaten, to request that plans be included to install bike lanes in conjunction with the Metropolitan Council Forcemain Project.

e. Update from Committee for Better Lake Minnetonka Band Shell

Wolfe reported that the Feasibility Study regarding the bandshell resulted in the conclusion that the feasibility of finding larger donors is negative and that the general conclusion is that any fundraising efforts would have to be directed towards small donors. He noted that the program is currently on hold and not completely abandoned.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Men's Garden Club Perennial Bed

Schmidt reported that it appears that the excavation for the library will start in either late spring or early summer of 2013. Accordingly, the perennial plants currently located in that space will have to be moved or destroyed by the excavation. He had met with the Men's Garden Club. The Club has agreed to move the perennials to The Commons into a space to be designated by the Park and Recreation Commission as long as the area is properly prepared for acceptance of those plants. The Club recommends that this project be done in early spring of 2013. Ralph Van Dixhorn, a member of the Men's Garden Club, has promised to prepare an inventory of the plants.

The Commission requested that the selection of the location for the perennial plants be added to the September agenda.

b. Bike Racks

Schmidt reported that the bicycle racks that are located at the old Xcel Energy building belong to the owner of that building are not available for the City's use. He indicated that the City does have two bicycle racks that can be installed in The Commons. There was general consensus that the bicycle racks be installed in a location near the existing concession stand.

6. NEW BUSINESS

c. Fall Cleanup Event

There was general consensus that the City should have a fall cleanup day in The Commons.

Rude suggested that the schools have a volunteer program that may very well provide a cadre of volunteers. She agreed to check with the school to find out the dates of that program so that it could be coordinated with the date for the fall cleanup. The Commission continued this agenda item to the September meeting.

7. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

a. Park and Recreation Accounts

Commissioner Wolfe moved, Commissioner Mullenbach seconded, to accept the financial reports. Motion carried 6/0.

8. MISCELLANEOUS / COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

a. Recent City Council Actions

Wisdorf updated the Commission on recent City Council actions. Wisdorf also shared a picture of what the signage would look like that will be posted in The Commons designating certain areas as "no smoking".

9. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Filippi moved, Commissioner Mullenbach seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried 6/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Schmidt  
Secretary