

***PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING – MARCH 5, 2020
MINUTES***

The Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting of the Andover Park and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Lindahl on March 5, 2020, 7:00 p.m., at the Andover City Hall, 1885 Crosstown Boulevard NW, Andover, Minnesota.

Commissioners Present: Chair Jim Lindahl, Commissioners Ted Butler, Angela Marinello, Kathy McElhose, Mark Miskowiec, Dawn Perra and Jake Widmyer

Commissioners Absent: None

Also Present: Assistant Public Works Director, Todd Haas

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR 2020

Motion by Butler, seconded by Miskowiec, to nominate Jim Lindahl as Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Motion carried on a 7-ayes, 0-nays vote.

Motion by Perra, seconded by Marinello, to nominate Ted Butler as Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Motion carried on a 7-ayes, 0-nays vote.

***APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE TO ANDOVER COMMUNITY CENTER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE***

Motion by Lindahl, seconded by Miskowiec, to nominate Ted Butler as the Commission's Representative to the Andover Community Center Advisory Committee. Motion carried on a 7-ayes, 0-nays vote.

RESIDENT FORUM

No one appeared to address the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Butler, seconded by Miskowiec to approve the January 16, 2020 Park Commission minutes as presented. Motion carried on a 6-ayes, 0-nays, 1-present (Perra) vote.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Widmyer seconded by Marinello, to approve the Agenda as presented.

Motion carried on a 7-ayes, 0-nays vote.

UPDATE OF NORTH METRO SOCCER ASSOCIATION MERGER WITH THREE RIVERS SOCCER ASSOCIATION

Chair Lindahl stated he spoke to a representative of the North Metro Soccer Association. He informed the representative that the merger will reduce the percentage of Andover residents in their association and may impact the way the fields are allocated. Chair Lindahl stated the issue of field allocation will come up at a future meeting.

Chris Randall, newly elected President of North Metro Soccer Association, came forward and stated the two associations voted to merge effective May 1, 2020. The new soccer association (Boreal Futbol Club) will allow for a more competitive organization with a wider variety of levels.

Commissioner Miskowiec asked how many players each association has. Mr. Randall stated North Metro Soccer Association has about 700 and Three Rivers has about 1000.

Commissioner Butler asked why soccer associations are operated so differently than other sports organizations. Mr. Randall replied the soccer associations feed the high schools.

Tony Brown stated soccer does not have designated boundaries and by having a competitive youth soccer program, players may stay in the area.

Commissioner Widmyer asked if the new association will need more fields. Mr. Randall stated there will not be less demand and the goal is to expand the number of players served. Mr. Tony Brown, Vice President of North Metro Soccer Association, stated field use has gone down because they have lost kids to more competitive organizations. Commissioner McElhose congratulated the associations on the merger and stated her support for soccer. Mr. Randall stated Andover fields are high quality and well taken care of.

Assistant Public Works Director Haas stated North Metro Soccer Association has not met the 51% Guideline requirement threshold in the past few years, but they have worked with lacrosse and football to balance use of the fields. Mr. Haas stated the association has been respectful of the fields.

REVIEW CONCEPT PLANS AND COST ESTIMATES/PRAIRIE KNOLL PARK/20-18

Assistant Public Works Director Haas stated the City Council authorized WSB to prepare concept plans for Prairie Knoll Park. Mr. Haas reviewed the two concept proposals for Prairie Knoll. Concept one will cost approximately \$574,000. Concept two is approximately \$1 million. Mr. Haas stated the concept plans are an idea for the overall development of the park. Mr. Haas stated the Commission is asked to make a decision on a recommendation at the March 26 meeting.

Commissioner Miskowiec stated the goal was to eliminate the north parking lot and he can't justify the cost of moving the fields.

Commissioner Perra stated the point of eliminating the north lot was because people don't use it because it is a long walk to the fields.

Chair Lindahl stated he has not received feedback about a need for outdoor pickleball courts. Commissioner Butler stated he has spoken to several players who would like to see outdoor courts. Chair Lindahl stated there are better locations for pickleball courts, such as the Community Center complex.

Mr. Haas asked the Commission to review the concepts and email questions if they have any before the next meeting.

CONSIDER STREET LIGHTING COST/STROOTMAN PARK/20-12

Assistant Public Works Director Haas reviewed the location of the proposed security lighting for Strootman Park. Mr. Haas stated the cost came in higher than anticipated and asked the Commission if they still wanted to move forward.

Chair Lindahl asked to move the location 100 feet closer to the parking lot to save costs. Mr. Haas stated the light could be moved, however, staff felt that the proposed location was best for security purposes. Mr. Haas stated the cost for the light comes out of the 2020 Miscellaneous Items Park Improvement Fund. Commissioner Butler asked if the cost could come out of the playground fund. Mr. Haas stated the Commission has worked hard to increase the playground replacement fund and it isn't wise to take a security light out of that account.

Chair Lindahl asked Mr. Haas to move the location of the light, update the quote, and research other funding sources.

RESCHEDULE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Motion by Widmyer, seconded by Perra, to move the March 19 Park and Recreation Commission meeting to March 26. Motion carried on a 7-ayes, 0-nays vote.

REVIEW OUTSTANDING ITEMS

1. **Andover Community Center Advisory Board** - Commissioner Butler stated the Community Center has been busy with activity in addition to construction. He updated the Commission on the status of the expansion.
2. **Items of Interest** - Mr. Haas updated the Commission regarding on-going items such as playground equipment, ASN ballfield lighting, trail bids, and park construction updates. Mr. Haas stated he will bring an updated budget report to the April meeting.
3. **Parks Maintenance Update** – Mr. Haas presented the staff report to the Commission.

CHAIR’S REPORT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Miskowiec, seconded by Perra, to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. Motion carried on a 7-ayes, 0-nays vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shari Kunza, Recording Secretary
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.