



MINUTES

Parks and Rec Committee

5:00 PM - Monday, June 12, 2023

1015 Hillside Ave SW, Ste 2, Pine City, MN 55063

The City of Pine City Council met in Parks and Rec Committee on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 5:00 PM in the 1015 Hillside Ave SW, Ste 2, Pine City, MN 55063.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

In attendance - Mayor Carl Pederson, Steve Roubinek, Julie Samuelson, Becky Schueller, and Council Member Gina Pettie

Staff in attendance - Parks & Public Buildings Manager Brock Bloomquist

3. MAY PARKS UPDATE

Bloomquist provided a brief update on the activities that have been happening park maintenance projects since the May meeting including: repairs on the fishing pier, clean up of the 5th street dock area and addition of a portable toilet, and the repairs for the pavilion at West Side Park. Bloomquist also shared that he has 8 season staff hires and now that school is out they are working a more consistent schedule.

4. OLD BUSINESS

4.1. DOG PARK DISCUSSION

The Pine Area Lions have pledged a \$500 donation for the dog park from the proceeds of the June Color Run event they organized. Still making plans for another fundraiser, idea TBD. Julie Berglund and Mike Gainor are planning a visit to the Pine City Lions meeting this Thursday to make a pitch for a contribution as well. Samuelson estimated there is still an approximate \$8,000 funding gap for full completion of this project.

A motion was made by Pederson, second by Pettie, to recommend that the City Council formally approve the dog park plans and allow the parks staff to get the necessary work done in order to plan a park dedication in September. Motion carried unanimously.

4.2. ECRAC GRANT EQUIPMENT

Bloomquist has met with Adrienne as a representative for the Arts Council and suggested the best placement for the equipment. Installation is on the schedule for next week so that a public event can be organized and promoted for grant purposes.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1. BEACH FISHING DOCK, LIFEGUARD HOUSE, AND PAVILLION

Westside Park & Beach opened this week. The staff has completed or nearly completed these projects. Bloomquist is getting quotes for steel roofing instead of regular shingles and the new siding for the lifeguard house is in and they should be working on this project by next week.

5.2. UPDATE ON HILLTOP PROJECT/DNR GRANT

The city met last week to discuss some issues with drainage for the property following the completion of the street improvements around the park, as well as the sidewalk plan. The DNR Grant deadline is approaching rapidly at June 30th and these items need to be completed soon.

5.3. PARKS USE POLICY

There was no attachment or copy of the Parks Use Policy available at the meeting.

5.4. NEW ALCOHOL POLICY

Not all members of the committee received the agenda and link to this document in advance of the meeting today, so the proposed policy was reviewed and discussed. Several comments were made regarding the proposed policy.

The policy references “reserved facilities” and then lists specific parks for the policy. There is not a picnic shelter at Challen Park or Hilltop Park. The language in this paragraph makes it sound like alcohol could only be within those specific locations, and at those specific parks. Furthermore, the parks committee felt that it should simply be all parks included as long as the other general requirements were all met.

A motion was made by Samuelson to make the following recommendations to the Ordinance Committee for changes to this policy: (1) remove the reference to picnic shelters in specific locations, (2) remove the references to specific parks and make the policy apply to all city park locations. A second was made by Roubinek. Motion passed with unanimous approval.

5.5. DISCUSSION REGARDING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Bloomquist noted that suggestions were made to open up opportunities for volunteers to help with park projects - like a spring clean up day at each park, or planting flowers. This just wasn't possible this year with the mass amount of updates needed in the parks and perhaps next year he will have more opportunities to do this.

6. COMMITTEE CONCERNS

6.1 Update distribution list for meetings:Schueller noted that for a second month she did not receive an email with the agenda information for this meeting and requested that staff confirm that the current members of the committee are all included on the distribution list.

6.2 Thomas Park:Samuelson requested that Thomas Park be added as a new item on the agenda for the July meeting.

6.3 Open Forum: While there were no guests in attendance this month, Samuelson suggested that we have an Open Forum statement similar to how City Council meetings that allow guests 3 minutes to talk about any item that is not on the agenda.

7. ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 6:17 PM on a motion by Schueller and seconded by Pederson. Motion carried.

8. UPCOMING DATES

July 10 5:00PM

CAO

Mayor