



Parks and Trails Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 16, 2023
Wayzata City Hall Community Room

Attendees: Chair Tory Schalkle, Sarah Randolph, Sarah Showalter, Graciela Gonzalez, and Merrily Borg Babcock

Staff: Parks Planner, Nick Kieser

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM by Chair Schalkle.

2. Approval of Agenda: The Board proposed the following additions to the agenda:

- Revenue Generating Idea
- Skating Rink at Reno Pond Discussion
- Post Office Bulb Planting
- Winter Activities
- Pickleball Court Discussion
- Great River Greening Grant

A motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Chair Schalkle, seconded by Showalter.
Approved 5-0.

3. Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Chair Schalkle, seconded by Randolph. Approved 5-0.

4. Public Comments: No public comments.

5. Old Business:

- a. Klapprich Park Design Development Discussion:** Planner Kieser reviewed the updated Klapprich Park concept plan that WSB put together. Kieser noted that if there are any updates the Board wanted on the plans WSB will incorporate those into the plans in preparation for the September 5 City Council workshop. At the workshop, the Council will review the concept plans and provide comments on the plans.

The Board had the following comments/proposed updates to the plans:

- Create a landscaped buffer in between the parking lot and outdoor plaza.
- Put in more picnic tables at the existing playground area so it represents the existing footprint better.
- The Board brought up the idea of having an underground cooling system under the sidewalk loop. This could still allow a flexible open lawn area, but also allow for a skating loop that would be open for additional time during the winter.

Staff will work with WSB to make these changes to the plans for the September 5 Council workshop. The Board can review the comments made by the Council on the concept plans at the next P&T Board meeting.

- b. **Review Updates to 2023-2032 CIP:** Staff reviewed the updated CIP which incorporated the Board's comments from the last review. The Board did not have any further comments or additional updates on the CIP.

6. New Business

- a. **Sunday Music in the Park Recap:** The Board noted that Ipso Facto and Westwind Swing Band were the two concerts already planned in August. The Westwind Swing Band concert had to be cancelled due to the weather. The Ipso Facto concert also had rain at 4:30 pm, but the rain started to subside so the band starting playing at 5:00 pm.

The two remaining concerts in August are Ditchweed from Power Balladz and Salsa Del Soul.

- b. **Revenue Generating Idea:** An idea was brought up by the Board that rental boats could be placed in the new dock system to create revenue for the Parks and Trails and add an additional amenity to residents and visitors. A similar system to Excelsior's Duffy Boats could be explored. Staff will plan to reach out to Duffy Boats to discuss this idea further and also look back to see how much revenue Duffy Boats bring to Excelsior.
- c. **Skating Rink at Reno Street Pond:** Board Member Babcock brought up the idea for a skating rink at the Reno Street pond. Ideally, staff could help clear the first snowfall at Reno Street pond, create a path through the snow to the skating area, and place benches at this location. Staff will discuss this idea with the Public Works staff and provide an update.
- d. **Post Office Park Bulb Planting:** Board Member Babcock noted that she is still looking for volunteers from the Board to help plant bulbs at the Post Office Park in mid-late October and showed a pamphlet of bulbs that were ordered. Any interested Board Members can contact Babcock.
- e. **Winter Activities:** The Board discussed potential winter activity ideas for this winter. The Board noted that they would still like to hold a Family Skate Day. Any additional activities could be discussed with Wayzata Community Ed to add to their work scope. The ideas noted by the Board that could be discussed with Community Ed were:
 - Skating Lessons
 - Dog Racing
 - Maple Tree Tapping
 - "Sauna Party"
 - Ice Sculptures/Snow Art
 - Broomball
 - Snowshoeing
- f. **Pickleball Court Discussion:** The Board brought up the idea of potentially creating a membership style open play for the future pickleball courts at Bell Courts. Woodbury has membership play for some of their pickleball courts where residents can pay to play during a

dedicated time at the courts. This could also bring in additional revenue to the Parks and Trails. Staff will reach out to Woodbury to learn more about their system and to discuss if this is a good fit for Wayzata.

- g. **Great River Greening Grant:** Board Member Babcock asked about the status of the Great River Greening Grant for the Nature Center clean-up. Staff noted that the grant award would not be known until approximately July, 2024. Great River Greening will keep us updated on the grant status when it gets closer to that month.

7. Other Business

- a. **Staff update:** Staff provided updates on the following items:

- **Middle School Tennis Courts** – The Middle School tennis courts reconstruction project will start construction in early September. Temporary lines will be in place this fall, and permanent striping will occur in the spring of 2024. Staff will continue to provide updates on this project.
- **Beach Drainage** – Staff noted that they met to discuss the beach drainage issue with the sprayway equipment. The plan is to extend the drain tile to main drainage problem areas in the fall when the beach is less used.
- **Picnic Tables/Adirondack Chairs** – The Public Works staff put together a comprehensive list of the number and location of the picnic tables and chairs around Wayzata. The Board decided that it would be worth purchasing additional chairs and tables. Staff will work to order these additional chairs and tables.
- **Tobacco/Cannabis in Parks** – Staff noted that the legalization of recreational use of cannabis became effective on August 1, 2023. The City Council reviewed a new Ordinance on August 8 that prohibits both cannabis and tobacco use in public spaces. The Council approved the first reading of that Ordinance so the second reading will be at an upcoming Council meeting for final approval.

- 8. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20 at 6:30 pm.