

**WAYZATA CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
April 23, 2024**

5:15 p.m. Update of Klapprich Park Design and Discussion of Next Steps

Mayor Mouton called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Council Members present in-person in the community room at City Hall offices: Iverson, MacDonald, and Parkhill. Councilmember Plechash was absent. Also present: City Manager Jeff Dahl, and Parks and Environment Planner Nick Kieser.

Planner Kieser started by noting that Klapprich Park is identified as the park with the highest priority for significant capital investment for improvements in the Parks and Trails Master Plan, a strategic document approved in 2019. In March 2023, the City entered into an agreement with WSB and Hagen, Christensen & McIlwain Architects (HCM) to commence the preliminary design phase of the Klapprich Park enhancements. Subsequently, in September 2023, the City Council convened to review preliminary design plans during a workshop session, offering valuable insights and direction to guide the ongoing design process. Since September, the Parks and Trails Board has collaborated with our consultants and stakeholders to create the final design plan that is attached for review.

The proposed plans show the following improvements:

- Playground – Create a new 4,200 sq. ft. ADA accessible play area near the warming house. For reference, the beach playground is just under 6,000 sq. ft. Specific playground equipment will be determined in the next planning phase.
- Parking Lot – Construct a new 20 stall parking lot that creates ADA accessibility to the play area, warming house, and ball field.
- Stairway from Bell Courts to Klapprich Park – Installation of a new stairway linking Bell Courts and Klapprich Park in an area that is challenging to traverse due to the steep incline. The goal is to create these stairs utilizing materials that blend into the natural setting.
- Hillside Slides near Stairway and Playground – Incorporate hillside slides near the stairway and playground, providing a unique mode of transit between Bell Courts and Klapprich Park, as well as making use of the steep topography adjacent to the playground.
- New Sidewalk along Minnetonka Ave N – Establish a new sidewalk along Minnetonka Ave N, facilitating pedestrian connectivity from Park Street to Wayzata Boulevard on the west side of Minnetonka Avenue.
- Outdoor Plaza – Create an outdoor plaza featuring various seating options, portable fire pits, and designated locations for public art installations.
- Drainage and Irrigation Improvements – Implement comprehensive drainage and irrigation improvements across the open lawn area to enhance maintenance efficiency and improve ice rink flooding each year.
- Warming House Renovation – Renovate the warming house to expand indoor warming room space, provide direct restroom access, install a new fireplace, increase seating and locker/cubby space, and designate space for rental skates.
- Bell Courts Cabana Renovation – Renovate the Bell Courts Cabana to establish ADA accessible restrooms, integrate a new kitchenette within the existing storage room for rental purposes, install a drinking fountain/bottle filler, and refresh the exterior with new paint and windows.
- Public Art Installations – Provide locations for future public art installations.
- Park Signage – Provide locations to install park signage.

In addition, Mr. Kieser summarized cost estimates, funding considerations, and community engagement. The City Council discussed the plans and cost estimates and provided the feedback listed below.

Klapprich Park Site Comments:

- The general feedback was that the cost of the proposed improvements was too high and options to reduce the cost or phase out the projects should be explored.

- Create a lighting plan for the buildings and site.
- Include planters and umbrellas to soften the space.
- Increase the garden areas with native plantings.
- Explore options for more sustainable pavement options for the parking lot.
 - Possibly reduce the number of parking stalls and show proof of parking instead.
- Ensure that no trees will be removed or limit the removal as much as possible.
- Determine if the stairway and hillside slides are necessary component.
- Include grills in the space.
- Explore creative amenities for the existing playground space (i.e. horseshoes, gardens, etc.).

Warming House Comments:

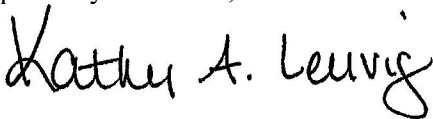
- The cost of the proposed upgrades is too high.
- Ensure the materials used in the warming house are durable and appropriate for skates.
- Find additional options for the warming house ceiling that has a more rustic look.
- Include less lockers and more cubbies or open storage spaces so the space is more versatile.
- Research solar options for the warming house.
- Liked the idea of making the restroom available year-round.

Bell Courts Cabana

- The cost is significantly too high for a simple refresh of the building.
- Like the idea of a new water fountain and water bottle filler.
- ADA is incredibly important so creating an ADA-compliant sidewalk should still be explored.
- Do not include a kitchenette because of the cost.
- Do not include windows along the western wall.
- Focus on a general refresh of the building with new paint, general maintenance, etc.

Staff noted that these comments will be reviewed by the Parks and Trails Board, staff, and the consultants. Updated plans and estimates will be created to incorporate this feedback which will be presented at a future Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Leervig, City Clerk