



**South St. Paul
Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
Minutes of February 14, 2017**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting was called to order by Chair Josh Dormady at 6:03 p.m. at Central Square Community Center.

Members Present: Lori Miller, Rich Dippel, Mathew Helwig, Ron Morgan, Michael Heidelberger, Shawn Meck

Members Absent: Josh Dormady

Others Present: Chris Esser, Shannon Young, Joe Forester, Geno Mazzali

1. INTRODUCTIONS – Board Introductions, new Councilmember liaison Joe Forester

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Rich Dippel and second by Michael Heidelberger to approve the Minutes of January 10, 2017. 6 Yays. 0 Nays. Motion Passed.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recreation Program Updates – Outdoor Rink Operations

Shannon Young noted the outdoor rinks are officially closed. Ms. Young gave an overview of the Princess Ball noting they had a total of 145 participants. The Princess Ball was held at the Historic Concord Exchange Building and was a huge success.

B. Small/Timid/Frail/Special Needs Off-Leash

Chris Esser presented gave an overview of the three options to add a smaller off-leash dog area to Kaposia Landing. Ms. Miller noted that while there was no outright consensus, option A was favored over options B and C from the discussion with the dog park patrons. Mr. Esser noted it is not in the 2017 budget to build this year however staff will continue to explore funding options. Mr. Esser will report back with estimates to complete the project. Motion by Shawn Meck and second by Rich Dippel to recommend option A for the south end of the existing area to expand to include the small/timid/frail/Special needs dog area.
6 Yays. 0 Nays. Motion passed.

C. McMorrow Field Renovation

Mr. Esser noted the new picnic shelter is being installed. Electricians are working to complete the lighting. Completion of shelter should be done by end of week. All other work will continue when the weather permits in the spring.

D. Adult Softball Request for Proposals

Mr. Esser noted that Dallas Apfelbacher was selected by the City Council to operate the Adult Softball Leagues. Ms. Miller noted there has been some talk that no alcohol will be allowed

during the season at the fields. Ms. Miller expressed her concerns, as with others that this should not change.

E. Recreation Supervisor duties and job posting

Mr. Esser welcomed Geno Mazzali, the new Recreation Supervisor. Mr. Mazzali noted he is coming from the City of Cottage Grove. Mr. Mazzali will be overseeing the pools, summer programming, special events and the outdoor rinks.

F. 2017 Commission Appointments

Mr. Esser thanked Shawn Meck for his time with the Parks Commission. The new candidates will appointed at the next City Council meeting.

G. Park Assignments/Visit Reports

Mr. Dippel noted the batting cage nets are up at Kaposia Landing and should be taken down as the wind can tear and damage them.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Lions Club Donation – Kaposia Landing

Mr. Esser noted the Lions club has created a sub-committee to discuss the options for funding a shelter at Kaposia Landing. Two options are being considered. A. Hexagon or B. Rectangular. Mr. Esser will report back as discussion continues with the Lions Club.

B. Kaposia Landing Grand Opening Celebration – April 22, 2017

Mr. Esser reported the grand opening is set for April 22, 2017. The program will begin at 10:00 am. Events with the program will be the honoring of James Metzen and the dedication of the roadway named Metzen Parkway. Following the program will be the girls B-Squad and Varsity playing at 11:00 and 1:00 and the Varsity Baseball at 4:15. All games will be against Henry Sibley High School and will only be played if the weather and field conditions permit.

C. Seidl's Lake Legislative Funding Request

Mr. Esser noted that the cities of South St. Paul, Inver Grove Heights, and West St. Paul have partnered to seek state legislative funding for a storm water pumping station to control the fluctuating water levels. The three cities are seeking a State Legislative Bonding Bill for the project with South St. Paul being the lead agency. Mr. Esser noted in 2004 the cost of the pumping station was \$452,000 and in 2017 estimating around \$700,000.

D. 2017-18 Parks and Recreation Department Goals.

Mr. Esser presented a list of the Department Goals and reviewed 2017 objectives.

5. Other Business

Council Member Forester noted that along with Mayor Francis they are looking into petitioning to host Hockey Day in Minnesota. Mr. Forester will keep the Park Commission updated as they gain information.

6. ADJOURNMENT- Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m. Next meeting is March 21, 2017.

Respectfully submitted, Shannon Young