



**South St. Paul
Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
Minutes of March 21, 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, Ron Morgan, Michael Heidelberger, Mike Lindamood, Josh Dormady

Members Absent: Mathew Helwig

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

1. Introductions – New Commissioner Michael Lindamood introduced himself.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Lori Miller and second by Michael Heidelberger to approve the Minutes of February 14, 2017. 6 Yays. 0 Nays. Motion Passed.

3. Old Business

4A. Kaposia Landing User Group Forum (item moved forward to accommodate guests)

Mr. Esser provided an overview to the user groups for tournaments and practices at Kaposia Landing. Patience was requested from everyone with a new park and the adjustments that the parks and recreation department and public works department will have with our new facility. Ms. Young handed out the field schedule for the summer asking for feedback. Youth baseball, youth softball, school district, and adult softball were all represented at the meeting and provided feedback and questions.

3A. Recreation Program Updates

Mr. Esser announced the summer brochure is out. The group mentioned the brochure looked great and complimented the new style. Mrs. Young noted we have had a lot of registrations to date.

3B. Small/Timid/Frail/Special Needs Off-Leash

Mr. Esser mentioned that in order to accomplish the additions there must be room in the 2017 budget. If not we will be waiting until 2018.

3C. McMorrow Field Renovation

Mr. Esser heard back from WSB and the shelter is in. The irrigation and trail installation process will begin in two to three weeks, hoping for the middle of April. Mr. Esser mentioned that we are looking at play structures which will represent the last piece of the project to be installed. Hoping for a fall, 2018 for a grand opening.

3D. Lions Club Donation

Mr. Esser noted we received the formal letter from the Lions Club of donation for a shelter at Kaposia Landing of 50%, not to exceed \$50,000. The Lions Club asked for their name on the shelter. We will begin a plan of action after the city council is notified.

3E. Kaposia Landing Grand Opening Celebration

Mr. Esser noted that the celebration is on Earth Day, April 22. We are working on a post card for the event that we will send out to our mailing list. Mr. Esser invited commission members to be involved on the planning committee. The group will be meeting two to three times to discuss a plan for the celebration. Lori, Rich, and Ron said they would like to be a part of the committee.

3F. Seidl's Lake Legislative Funding Request

Mr. Esser noted that the proposal for \$695,000 has been submitted and no one has been asked to testify on this matter. This is the third time trying for bonding bill funding and we are hopeful that a set of fresh eyes will give us a different result. If not successful, we will try other resources.

3G. Park Assignments/Visit Reports

Mr. Esser mentioned that park assignment will be decided at the next commission meeting. The program is for commissioners to look over a specific park and to give us reports on how the parks are doing.

4. New Business

4A. Kaposia Landing User Group Forum

Moved to accommodate guest. See page one for item.

4B. 2017 Commission Appointments and officers

Mr. Esser mentioned officers for ballot and nominations. Mentioning Chair and Vice Chair. Rich Dippel offered to be Chair, Josh Dormady offered to be Vice-chair. Motion by Lori Miller and second by Michael Heidelberger to approve Rich Dippel for commission Chair and Josh Dormady Vice-chair for 2017. 6 Yays. 0 Nays. Motion Passed.

5. Other Business

5A. Mr. Esser noted that he has received good news today that talks with the Vietnam Veterans group in town will likely fund a flag pole at Kaposia Landing. If all goes well, the hope is to have it installed for opening day.

5B. Mr. Esser noted that applications have been received from community groups for operating the concessions at Veterans Field and Kaposia Landing for 2017. Kaposia Landing will be fast pitch softball and Veterans Field will be the wrestling boosters. Mr. Esser also noted that the groups will have to apply for a license with the state and will be inspected over the summer.

6. Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Next meeting is April 11, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,
Geno Mazzali