

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
CITY OF RAMSEY  
ANOKA COUNTY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey Park and Recreation Commission conducted a regular meeting on March 14, 2013, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Commission Members Present:      Chairperson Melody Shryock  
   Vice Chair Angela Olsen  
   Commissioner Bridgett Barr  
   Commissioner Richard Chubb  
   Commissioner Andrew Fyten  
   Commissioner David Minke

Commission Members Absent:      Commissioner Shane Bennett (excused)

Also Present:                              Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood

**1.      CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Shryock called the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2.      CITIZEN INPUT**

None.

**3.      APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Commissioner Minke, seconded by Commissioner Chubb to approve the Park and Recreation Commission meeting agenda as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Shryock, Commissioners Minke, Chubb, Barr, Fyten, and Olsen. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Bennett

**4.      APPROVE MINUTES**

**4.01: Approve Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes dated February 14, 2013**

Motion by Commissioner Fyten, seconded by Commissioner Olsen, to approve the following Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes:

- 1) Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes dated February 14, 2013.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Shryock, Commissioners Fyten, Olsen, Barr, Chubb, and Minke. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Bennett

## **5. COMMISSION BUSINESS**

### **5.01: Consider Park Land Dedication in Lieu of Cash Dedication for Future Development Adjacent to Lake Itasca**

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood presented in 1987, a Planned Unit Development was approved known as North Fork. As part of the phases of the platting, and by mutual agreement, two outstanding Park Dedication matters remain from those lands that have already been subdivided. These are that North Fork, Inc. (the Developer) “owes” the City two acres of quality park land, and also “owes a 50-foot wide easement to access the presently undeveloped park tracts east of Lake Itasca and generally north of Outlot E.” The 50-foot access dedication is understood to be over or across Outlot E.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated the purpose of the case is to receive the Commission’s general position on exploring park land dedication (over and above what may be owed), in lieu of cash dedication for that undeveloped parcel south of Alpine Drive entitled “Proposed Future Development” on the attached drawing. The land at this time, is expected to permit approximately 16 single-family houses. There are many variables and considerations that also may enter into the question above, however, this case is only intended to address the general position, as a beginning point of discussion between the Developer and the City. It should be noted that the Developer is seeking to answer this question for their planning purposes, and thus the timing of this case. While the Developer may also be interested in receiving Park Dedication credit for the dedication of land involving Outlot C and Outlot D (Moors), Staff is recommending that if they are to be considered, or if ultimately they are a part of some equation, that it be ancillary to receiving Outlot E.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reviewed no funding considerations are germane at this time, relating to the question of land versus cash Park Dedication in the matter of North Fork, Inc. and the City. Staff’s recommendation would be to remain amenable to North Fork Inc.’s request to explore any number of formulas for meeting present and future Park Dedication owed.

Commissioner Barr asked where the lots would be developed and Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated on the south side of Alpine Drive.

Chairperson Shryock stated in the past there was discussion about a passive park in that area. Riverblood stated the City plans include six community parks. These parks would be easily accessible with access to the trail corridors. A larger community park is an option for this area if the Commission would like to pursue into that.

Chairperson Shryock stated she would be interested in looking at some land for a larger park. Commissioner Fyten agreed staff should research land options.

The consensus of the Park and Recreation Commission was to look at land rather than cash at this time.

Commissioner Barr asked why this was not dealt with prior.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated when development was done around the golf course that area was considered recreational and thus the Park Dedication was agreed to be deferred. He indicated this should be reconciled before any further development is done.

Motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Minke, to recommend to the City Council that Staff work with North Fork, Inc. to present options to solve the present and future Park Dedication owed in the form of land.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Shryock, Commissioners Barr, Minke, Chubb, Fyten, and Olsen. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Bennett

#### **5.02: Recommend Park Monuments for The Draw – 2013 Parks Capital Improvement**

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood presented on February 5, 2013, the Park and Recreation Commission met with the City Council in a joint work session for the purposes of a preview of the 2013 Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Consensus was generally that most projects should move forward as discussed within the CIP document. Considerable discussion ensued regarding the two park entrance monuments (signs) for The Draw. Discussion may be summarized between two views: One shared by a couple Councilmembers was that park signage need not cost several 10's of thousands of dollars. Another position iterated was that these are indeed way-finding monuments, and are also expected to be in service for many decades – and should be constructed in a manner that befits the \$3 million investment that represents the 7-acre park's construction cost. Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood noted the entrance monument at Central Park cost approximately \$50,000 in 1997.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood presented the purpose of this case is to further the discussion on the scope and cost of the proposed 2013 monuments for The Draw. Several documents were provided to aid in the discussion:

- The COR sign design guidelines approved by City Council in December 2012.
- Exhibit showing the two monument or sign locations for The Draw
- “Cadillac” monument cost
- “Chevrolet” monument cost
- “Metro Geo” monument cost

Staff requested three estimates from sign maker Archetype from Minneapolis (based upon the approved COR sign guidelines) in three quality/cost “levels.” While the price points are outlined, staff did not have a perspective view to compare these choices to, but has asked the vendor to prepare these to be available for the meeting. Parks & Assistant Public Works

Superintendent Riverblood noted the intent for this element of the Parks CIP would be to have these installed if possible in time for The Draw Summer Concert Series beginning June 20<sup>th</sup>. The funding source is presently shown as \$20,000 within the 2013 Parks CIP from the Park Improvement Trust Fund.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated a Staff recommendation is pending the examination of the perspective views of the three categories of monument choices, together with an investigation of materials and durability and utility. It is important that people are able to locate the park. The three price quotes received were:

“Cadillac”	\$61,590.00
“Chevrolet”	\$29,450.00
“Geo Metro”	\$16,050.00

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reviewed the \$20,000 option and showed a drawing of the sign and indicated the location for the sign. This would be a vertical sign and could be easily seen from the road. This sign would also be lighted. The other sign would be at the intersection of the parkway and is more of a monument type of sign.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood showed another drawing showing a possible plan for an 8-foot high sign. The kiosk was also shown. Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood suggested rather than having a “Directory” on the kiosk, which can be easily outdated, a sign for The Draw may be more appropriate.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood showed a sign in the \$12,000 range and indicated that some partnership with the charter school for electricity is being researched.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reviewed the “Chevrolet” option, which would cost around \$20,000. The sign face would be aluminum and the sign base and planter would be fabricated aluminum.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood showed the most expensive option as the stone model, noting stone is more durable than aluminum, which can be easily dented.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reviewed the kiosk models. The base model would be aluminum. The mid-model is also aluminum with special attention to painting. The most expensive version is constructed of Kasota Stone, internally illuminated caps.

Commissioner Olsen stated it is important that this sign last and looks nice for a number of years. She questioned how long an aluminum sign would last.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated aluminum does not corrode and is easily repairable. He stated these will be in service for decades and should look good as there was a considerable investment in the construction of The Draw.

Commissioner Barr asked what amount was in the budget.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated \$20,000 is within the budget as a placeholder.

Commissioner Minke asked if Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood had seen the aluminum models.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated before a final decision is made, he would like to research and see some actual signs made in these materials.

Commissioner Minke suggested some references be looked at with similar signs to see how they have worn.

Chairperson Shryock asked if the signs along Ramsey Boulevard would be internally lighted.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that was correct and he will research talking to the charter school.

Chairperson Shryock asked if solar could be used.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that is a good idea and there is a solar lighting grant available from the DNR, however the timing may not be appropriate for these signages. He felt it would be worthwhile researching.

Chairperson Shryock suggested the “stone look” be used either in stone or painted aluminum to look like stone. It would be appropriate to continue the “stone look” already seen on Ramsey Boulevard

The consensus of the Parks & Recreation Commission was to give Staff direction to continue research on the specific monuments and kiosks.

Chairperson Shryock suggested since the sign on Ramsey Boulevard would not be touched, to make that one aluminum and put the stone sign within the COR.

Motion by Commissioner Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Minke, to recommend to the City Council Staff research and develop a level of scope and cost for the two monuments and way finding signs for The Draw based upon discussion and pursue the possibility of solar lighting.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Shryock, Commissioners Minke, Olsen, Barr, Chubb, and Fyten. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Bennett

## **6. COMMISSION/STAFF INPUT**

### **6.01: Final 2012-2013 Rink Patronage Count**

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated the final 2012-2013 Rink Patronage Count was 5,953 persons counted at the warming houses – 3,085 at Central Park, 2,868 at Ramsey Elementary School. Use at Ramsey Elementary School was slightly over the preceding winter.

### **6.02: Update On The Status Of Various 2013 Parks Capital Improvements**

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reported that updates for the capital improvements will be reviewed at upcoming Commission meetings.

Commissioner Barr asked the status of the Elmcrest Park and Building.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated the Northern Lights Soccer Club will be invited to the Council meeting (March 26, 2013) where this will be discussed.

Commissioner Chubb asked for an update on Central Park.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated meetings are to be held to review the cost of the land.

### **6.03: April Agenda Items**

It was noted that Commission meetings during the summer held outdoors. The Environmental Expo moving to September and the Tree Sale is part of Clean-up Day in May.

Chairperson Shryock indicated will not be renewing her position on the Park and Recreation Commission. She thanked the Commissioners and Staff for making her time on the Commission enjoyable.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood thanked Chairperson Shryock for her decade plus of service and the accomplishments of the Commission over the past 12 years and the great impact on the community.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Chubb, seconded by Commissioner Barr, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Shryock, Commissioners Chubb, Barr, Minke, Fyten, and Olsen. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Bennett.

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Riverblood  
Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Debbie Wolfe  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*