

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

The Ramsey Park and Recreation Commission conducted a regular meeting on April 11, 2013, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Commission Members Present: Vice Chair Angela Olsen
 Commissioner Bridgett Barr
 Commissioner Shane Bennett
 Commissioner Richard Chubb
 Commissioner Andrew Fyten
 Commissioner Thomas Mobry

Commission Members Absent: Commissioner David Minke (Excused)

Also Present: Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Olsen called the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

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

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Vice Chair Olsen, Commissioners Chubb, Barr, Bennett, Fyten, and Mobry. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Minke.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

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

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

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

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Vice Chair Olsen, Commissioners Bennett, Fyten, Barr, Chubb, and Mobry. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Minke.

5. COMMISSION BUSINESS

5.01: Presentation: Second Annual 'Bark for Life' Event at The Draw – April 27, 2013

Kimberly Gust reported that the 2nd Annual Bark for Life event will take place on April 27th. She advised that approximately \$9,000 was brought in through the event the previous year, which was the largest Bark for Life in ever within Minnesota. She explained that the event raises funds for the American Cancer Society and also brings awareness against the fight for cancer. She noted that the money raised for research also benefits canines as dogs suffer from the same types of cancer as people. She reported that the previous year there had been no issues with unruly dogs or trash, although the event had been cut short due to rain. She advised that the same types of signage and trash receptacles would be used again this year and noted that a veterinarian would also be onsite this year. She reported that there are new sponsors for the event this year, along with some continued sponsors from the previous year, and there is still room for additional sponsorship. She advised that an animal rescue organization will also be attending with animals available for adoption at the event. She welcomed any interested residents to attend the event and advised that additional information can be found on the Bark for Life website.

5.02: 2013 Election of Officers

Vice Chairperson Olsen opened the floor for nominations for the Chair and Vice Chair positions for 2013.

Commissioner Fyten nominated Angela Olsen as 2013 Chair.

Commissioner Barr seconded the nomination.

Motion by Commissioner Fyten, seconded by Commissioner Barr, to appoint Angela Olsen as Chair of the Park and Recreation Commission.

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

Commissioner Barr nominated Shane Bennett as 2013 Vice Chair.

Commissioner Fyten seconded the nomination.

Motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Fyten, to appoint Shane Bennett as Vice Chair of the Park and Recreation Commission.

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

5.03: Recommend Shelter and Restroom for Riverdale Park – 2013 Capital Improvement

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood presented the staff report and provided background information on the creation of Riverdale Park. He explained the importance of a shelter and restroom for the park as the Mississippi River Trail to be constructed in 2013 will now connect the park through to the regional park, and discussed grant funds that had been obtained. He reviewed the cost for the proposed improvements for the park, which include the construction of the shelter and restroom as well as the connections to sewer, water and electric. He stated that a drinking fountain and mister are already proposed but noted that while the drinking fountain would be located at Riverdale Park while the mister would be located at Central Park. He reported a total project cost not to exceed \$84,000, which will be funded through the Park Trust Fund and noted that this will count towards the matching funds portion for the grant that was obtained.

Motion by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Fyten, to recommend to City Council a not-to-exceed amount of \$84,000 from the Park Trust Fund for Riverdale Park's shelter, restroom, and drinking fountain as presented within the 2013 Capital Improvement Plan.

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

5.04: Consider Park and Recreation Commission Outdoor Meeting Schedule

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood noted that the Commission has a history of holding their regular monthly meetings in the parks during the summer months and advised that a list of possible locations was included in the Commission packet. He explained that holding meetings in the parks not only provides the Commission with the ability to visit the parks but also allows residents to attend meetings within their neighborhoods. He asked if the Commissioners would like to visit any other parks during their summer meeting schedule.

Commissioner Bennett stated that he was in agreement with the meeting locations proposed in the packet but recognized that there was not a meeting location proposed for June. He suggested Alpine Park for the June meeting location.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood confirmed consensus on the meeting locations proposed in the packet, with the addition of Alpine Park for June and noted that the meeting list would be published in the *Ramsey Resident*.

6. COMMISSION/STAFF INPUT

6.01: Volunteer Tree Planting at North Commons – Saturday, May 18, 2013

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reported that the City Council approved the playground project for North Commons, which will occur in June. He advised that a volunteer tree planting will occur in the park on Saturday, May 18th and welcomed any

interested residents who would like to participate. He noted that this could be an ideal time for high school students looking to complete public service hours.

6.02: Environmental Expo moved to September

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reported that the Environmental Expo has moved from the spring to September and advised that the Commission will have plenty of time during the summer to discuss their plans for the event.

6.03: Recent City Council Action on Capital Improvements

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood mentioned the recent Council activity regarding the Capital Improvements and noted that the Commission would further discuss the community building for Elmcrest Park at their May meeting.

6.04: Pending Great River Energy Prairie Installation at Alpine Park

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood commented on the pending landscaping plan from Great River Energy and noted that this would be the appropriate landscape to go below the power lines as trees often interfere with the lines as they mature and are then cut down.

6.05: New Windows for the Park Center Building at Central Park

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that the new windows have been installed and bring a lot more light into the building. He commented that this update will give more natural light, allow solar heat gain during the winter months, and provide parents with the ability to see the playground from inside the building.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Mobry, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Riverblood
Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.