

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

The Ramsey Park and Recreation Commission conducted a regular meeting on August 11, 2022, at Peltzer Park, 7001 149th Lane NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Commission Members Present: Chair Shane Bennett
 Vice Chair Brandon Sis
 Commissioner Nathan Barten
 Commissioner Jennifer Leistico
 Commissioner Justin Loss
 Commissioner Brian Walker

Commission Members Absent: Commissioner Dean Olson

Also Present: City Council Liaison Debra Musgrove
 Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood
 Recreation Specialist Marla Martinez-Flynn

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

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

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Sis, Barten, Leistico, Loss, and Walker. Voting No: None. Absent: Commission Olson.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

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

- Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes dated July 14, 2022

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Barten, Leistico, Loss, Sis, and Walker. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Olson.

5. COMMISSION BUSINESS

5.01: Approve Proposal for a Remote-Controlled Car Track at Titterud Park

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood commented that the Commission learned a lot about RC cars and related tracks at the last meeting. He stated that at that time Alpine Park was being considered by Commissioner Sis suggested Titterud Park. He noted that staff met with the residents proposing the track at Titterud Park and they believe that would be a great spot for the track. He stated that all costs and work would be performed by volunteers with the exception of the sign that would be crafted by Public Works. He asked that the Commission approve the volunteer development of an RC track at Titterud Park with the understanding that there would not be a cost to the City.

Commissioner Loss asked if the track would be used year-round and the estimated time to construction of the track.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood replied that he anticipates that the track could be used year-round but was unsure it would be used in conditions of deep snow. He did not have an estimated time for construction of the track. He stated that sometimes these volunteer endeavors do not take off.

Motion by Commissioner Loss seconded by Commissioner Sis to approve the volunteer development of an RC track at Titterud Park.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Loss, Sis, Barten, Leistico, and Walker. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Olson.

5.02: Clarity Park Dedication Requirements for Trott Brook Crossing

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that over the course of the last two years the Commission has discussed the proposed Trott Brook Crossing development. He noted that preliminary plat was approved by the City Council but was unsure of the timing of final plat consideration as the applicant is still awaiting approvals from the Met Council and Lower Rum River Water Management Organization (LRRWMO). He stated that the applicant desires to submit final plat approval for the homes on the west to begin phasing in that order, which is opposite the original proposal. He reviewed the park dedication agreed upon with the land dedication satisfying the first few phases and cash to satisfy the remainder. He noted that because the phasing is proposed to go in the opposite direction, he would want to clarify that park dedication would be required in cash for the proposed new phasing. He stated that this case would clarify the park dedication terms that cash be provided until the land is dedicated for the park and trails.

Commissioner Sis asked if there is a reason the phasing has changed.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that he believes that it is cost driven as the newly proposed phasing would take advantage of the availability of utilities and the area where phasing was previously proposed to begin would involve additional costs for utilities, roads, and other infrastructure.

Councilmember Musgrove asked if this would only apply if the development phasing occurs from west to east.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood confirmed that to be true but was confident that the applicant would be requesting phasing in this manner.

Commissioner Walker commented that there are some issues with the Hunt property and change in ownership which has resulted in additional costs for paving of that road. He believed that was a driving force in the change in phasing.

Consensus of the Commission was to direct staff to prepare the Trott Brook Crossing Development Agreement for City Council consideration, specifying that Park Dedication and Trail Fees shall be due in the full cash amount for each lot created until such time as the park land is acquired by the City and trails and boardwalks are completed.

5.03: Acknowledge 2023 Parking Lot Reconstruct – Central Park

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood commented that this presents an opportunity to place medians in the parking lot that could capture water. He stated that currently the water sheet flows across the parking lot and goes across the street, which also causes icing conditions in the winter. He stated that the water will be better used in the medians as trees and landscaping can be planted in the medians as well. He stated that this project will move forward with the 161st Avenue project. He noted that staff would schedule with the association on the construction time period. He stated that this is a draft of a configuration but noted that they are attempting to angle parking with one-way aisles in order to better direct traffic. He stated that this item was presented for informational purposes as it will go forward to the City Council for approval and provided details on funding for the project.

Commissioner Sis asked if this is the only section of pavement that is being replaced, noting another area of parking.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that he would recommend that it be done all at once. He stated that the far parking area and small parking area are both in good shape and could perhaps use an overlay.

Commissioner Loss asked if the basketball hoop would remain or be removed.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood replied that the basketball hoop would remain as it does get use when there is not parking in that area.

6. COMMISSION/STAFF INPUT

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood provided a recent flyer that was created to promote recreational activities. He stated that they are aiming to provide recreational opportunities for all different age groups.

Recreation Specialist Martinez-Flynn stated that the City hosted the four-story inflatable waterslide in July which was fully funded by Dedicated Systems and was a great success. She highlighted upcoming recreation events and additional ideas she has for fall programming.

Chair Bennett commented that he has received positive feedback on the inflatable waterslide, and it is fun to hear that archery now has a waitlist because of the increased interest.

Commissioner Loss asked if there are plans to hold another pickleball lesson.

Recreation Specialist Martinez-Flynn confirmed that they are working with another organization that provides assistance for that event to schedule a date.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood commented that many of these recreation programs are possible because of partnerships in the community and therefore are being provided at low to now cost and benefit the community.

Commissioner Walker stated that when Game Fair occurs, the Lions Club sets up in a City owned parking lot to charge for parking. He recognized that it is a fundraiser for the organization but also has an issue with a public parking lot not available for free parking by the public.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood commented that he is also mindful of those kinds of things. He stated that the Lions provide a lot of contributions to the City. He stated that all the funds that are raised are put back into the community. He provided examples such as providing beverages, a large donation in excess of \$300,000 for the pavilion at Central Park, and donation of defibrillators in the community including those used in squad cars. He stated that staff makes it clear to the Lions that people playing pickleball will be using that parking lot and do not have to pay.

Commissioner Walker commented that he does not have a problem assisting the Lions but wanted to ask the question.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that in earlier decades, the Lions assisted in purchasing equipment for the Fire Department when Ramsey split away to have its own department. He stated that the Lions have also provided cash donations to the youth sports associations.

Chair Bennett thanked all members of the Commission for their continued work along with the contributions and work of staff.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood asked if the Commission believes that the Council should recognize volunteers.

Chair Bennett commented that he likes that idea.

Commissioner Sis asked if there is a good list of those volunteers.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood confirmed that staff does have that list.

Chair Bennett commented that there have been great contributions from volunteers and that should be recognized.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Sis, seconded by Commissioner Barten, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Sis, Barten, Leistico, Loss, and Walker. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Olson.

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Riverblood
Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.