

## **Maple Grove Citizens Advisory Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**DRAFT -- June 8, 2011**

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by CAC Co-Chair Bob Joiner at the Maple Grove Government Center. However, there was not quorum at the time of meeting start.

#### **Members Present**

John Beacham	Leslie Bender	Stephen Gill
Lorraine Gresser	Mark Hodge	Bob Joiner
Joe Piket	Katie Rodriguez	Don Skoglund

#### **Members Absent**

Linda Furst, Greg Hulne, Harry Kennedy, Tim Klevar, Pam Larson, Steven Maas, Joan Masberg, Kevin Rebman

#### **Others Present**

City Councilmember Phil Leith, CAC City Staff Liaison Mike Opatz, Parks and Recreation Superintendent of Recreation of Mark Saari, and Julie Hamilton and Todd Leyse of the Osseo Maple Grove Basketball Association were present.

#### **Osseo Maple Grove Basketball Association (OMGBA) Facility Presentation**

Julie Hamilton, President of OMGBA provided an overview of the organization. Toddy Leyse, OMGBA Secretary and Building Committee Chairperson, provided a detailed review of the house program, the traveling program, participation, and tournaments. Handouts were provided to attendees.

Mr. Leyse discussed the types of facilities currently used, their usage, and their availability. He stated there is a shortage of space and practice times.

Since 2004 OMGBA has been looking at/researching a facility. Mr. Leyse stated that a precedent was set with the second hockey rink at the Community Center as well as the sports dome at the Senior High to be opening this fall.

He talked about facilities in other communities in the metropolitan area.

Mr. Leyse also talked about future building in Maple Grove to house six basketball courts. He also stated courts could be added to several existing schools. He reviewed the costs of a new facility and operating expenses. He stated the OMGBA board has approved funds for a building as well as funds for operating expenses each year. Mr. Leyse stated it was felt the basketball group should not have to pay for the land as the other two groups (OMGBH and OMGAA/Maplebrook Soccer) did not, but that they were prepared to pay their 20 percent of construction and ongoing operating costs.

Discussion took place on where a facility would be located and whether it would be donated land or if there would be costs involved with an acquisition. It was stated that OMGBA is hoping for a freestanding facility.

Mr. Leyse said there is a very good site that is owned by Maple Grove Lutheran Church north of the MGHS football stadium. Mr. Leyse made comments about whether or not assessments on that land are pending or not. He stated the property is about ten acres, and OMGBA needs about five acres for a facility. Mr. Leyse made the suggestion that OMGBA buys the property for its value (not assessments) as their 20 percent participation and then sells/donates to the City.

It was stated that at this time the CAC has been given no direction by the City Council to get involved in this project.

Discussions took place about land at Zachary Lane and Weaver Lake Road as well as land between Osseo and Maple Grove. OMGBA would need to sit down and talk with City officials about land possibilities.

Mr. Saari stated the model has been for the City/School District to work together and has a good relationship for facilities. A brief discussion took place on park dedication fees.

Mr. Leyse stated that OMGBA looked at other facilities in Maple Grove such as the old Tennant building as well as Alleygator's. A basketball facility would be a unique facility. Currently most of the basketball facilities are on school properties—gyms, domes, arenas.

Discussion centered around location and land, and several times CAC members stated that land is the biggest factor, and without suitable land options, this would be a difficult venture.

The question was asked what was the total hours used now for games and practices versus what they would like to offer their members and then how many hours would the new facility provide to meet that need. Mr. Leyse did not quite have that detail, and stated that even with a new facility they would possibly get out of using one of the elementary schools and maybe Maple Grove and/or Osseo Junior High.

OMGBA talked about the rental process, and the frustrations they have with finding space, cancellations of reservations, particularly with the School District. He stated some of the facilities are unsuitable for basketball with slippery floors and with minimal or no borders outside the playing surface, and there is little or no room for spectators.

Mark Saari stated the Community Center gym is not built for programming; it is more of a drop-in facility. He stated that schools primarily/historically have housed gyms and not been a city function. Mention was made to add such a basketball facility to a future

neighborhood park. Mr. Saari stated that in larger park planning, the City tries to put in the aspects of the park facilities in advance of the housing development.

Mr. Leyse asked for CAC's support in asking the City Council to examine this project. He suggested the City Council and CAC have a discussion, and he stated OMGBA could come to a future meeting to answer any additional questions. The question arose as to whether the City Council wants CAC to spend time on this project.

OMGBA stated they would be willing to take the necessary steps to get support from the City. Councilmember Leith stated it would be necessary for the Council to talk more to Mark Saari and City Administrator Al Madsen.

OMGBA stated they would like to know fairly soon about the City's position so they can move forward and acquire land if necessary. Mr. Leyse again brought up the 80/20 participation projects that have been established—second sheet of ice at the Community Center and the sports dome on School District 279 land at the Maple Grove Senior High.

It was stated that CAC was at this point only to receive and discuss the information, but not to take any further action or make any recommendation. CAC thanked the OMGBA representatives for their presentation and their foresight and organization in planning for a facility.

**Minutes**

As there was a quorum, the minutes for the April 13, 2011 regular CAC meeting were approved.

**Other Business/  
Updates**

Next CAC meeting will be September 14, 2011. The meeting will include an overview of where CAC will go and there may be other ideas from Councilmember Leith/City Administrator Al Madsen.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Morris  
Minute Secretary