

MAPLE GROVE

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

Community Center
7:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chair, Bill Lewis at 7:30 p.m.

Board Members Present Board Members present were: Chair, Bill Lewis; and Board Members: Deb Syhre, Ken Helvey, Terry Sharp and Kelly Cunningham.

Board Members Absent Board Members absent were: Troy Nygaard and Vice Chair, John Ferm.

Also Present Also present were: Chuck Stifter, Director; Mark Saari, Superintendent of Recreation; Lisa Jost, Community Center Manager; Patty Anderson, Administrative Supervisor; Jeanne Vestal, Recreation Facilities Supervisor; Scott Roberts, Park Supervisor; Jeff Evenson, Superintendent of Parks and Planning, and five Maple Grove High School students.

Approval Of Agenda **Motion made by Board Member Cunningham, seconded by Board Member Helvey to approve the agenda for the September 15, 2016 meeting as presented.**

Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, there were five ayes and no nays. Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER/STAFF REPORTS

Miscellaneous Board Member Reports

Basketball Backboards: Board Member Helvey stated that he had an inquiry from a resident concerning converting basketball backboards from metal to glass. He indicated he spoke with the Director and was able to communicate to the resident the replacement program schedule. He noted that as people start seeing the glass backboards there may be a greater demand. He stated the inquiry was specific to Gleason Fields where they do play a lot of basketball.

The Director noted that when they changed the standard for the backboards from aluminum to glass, it was agreed that when they resurfaced or replaced a court, they would make the conversion. He indicated that resurfacing is done every seven years, but if the Board wished to develop a different replacement plan they could incorporate that into the budget. Board Member Helvey noted the condition of the court and indicated he did not see any structural reason to do something right now.

Welcome: Chair Lewis welcomed the students who were present to fulfill their government class requirement and encouraged them to ask questions.

Chair Lewis welcomed Jeff Evenson as the new Superintendent of Parks and Planning. Jeff noted it was great to be part of the staff and indicated they had a great system and he was looking forward to being a part of it.

Park Tour: Chair Lewis thanked the staff for their efforts in the putting together the Park Tour held prior to the meeting. He indicated he felt it was very effective and that the two areas they visited were good places for them to focus on in terms of refreshing what they have in place.

Weaver Lake Boat Launch Parking: Chair Lewis stated that he had received a letter from a resident about an issue with parking at the Weaver Lake boat launch. He indicated the resident had a kayak and had some issues as to where they could park and what was permissible. He noted he wished to receive the letter into the record and asked that staff look further into the matter and get back to the Board.

Miscellaneous Staff Reports

Teen Program: The Director displayed slides of the Random Adventure Race program that was developed for teens this summer at Central Park. He indicated it was very popular and they are already planning ideas for next year.

Maple Grove High School Baseball: The Director shared with the Board an email that had been received from Darby Carlson, the head coach of the Maple Grove High School Baseball team. The Director noted the email thanked Scott Roberts and his crew for their commitment to the baseball fields. The email

indicated that there has been a marked improvement to the conditions of the fields and the investment in providing quality fields to play on is greatly appreciated by the coaches, players, parents and members of the Crimson baseball program. Darby Carlson stated that their willingness to devote time and resources to building the bullpen last spring was fantastic. He noted it speaks volumes when opposing teams comment on the quality of the ballpark. Darby Carlson again expressed appreciation for providing facilities that are top notch.

Kids Around the World: Patty Anderson displayed slides showing the removal of the play equipment at Woodcrest Neighborhood Park and Maple Tree Playlot that has been donated to Kids Around the World. She noted the group of volunteers that removed the equipment and staff that assisted in removing the concrete pieces. She indicated the equipment has been transported to Rockford, Illinois where it will be repaired and repainted. Patty Anderson noted that in February 2017, it will be installed in Sasabe, Mexico. She detailed a program that is in place to provide school supplies for children in this same city and noted the play equipment will follow those supplies down to Sasabe. Patty Anderson noted the cost of moving the equipment and having it installed. She also updated them on the fundraising efforts that have occurred.

A question was raised as to whether the school in Mexico would get the equipment from both the playgrounds. Patty Anderson indicated the Kids Around the World group would combine what they could as well as other equipment from other playgrounds that have been collected. She clarified that the Maple Grove Rotary were the volunteers that helped remove the equipment and most likely will have representatives at the installation in February.

Fashion Shows: The Director displayed slides of the annual Fashion Show where both seniors and teens walked the runway to model the latest fashions from local clothing stores.

Arboretum Master Plan Meetings: Patty Anderson noted the plan is to host two meetings in an open house format regarding the Arboretum Master Plan. She stated the first meeting would be for the neighborhood residents who wished to drop in on October 4th at Lakeview Knolls from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. She noted the second meeting would also be on October 4th, but

from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with the Angel of Hope group where staff would give a short presentation to the group. Patty Anderson indicated they would bring back any feedback from the meetings to the Board.

The Director noted that staff would forward the meeting time and date to the Board. He indicated that he would be out of town during those dates as would Chair Lewis. He noted that Patty Anderson and Jeff Evenson would be present and are very knowledgeable about the proposal and the process. He indicated any Board support at those meetings would be appreciated. The Director noted the purpose is to gather feedback about the plan. Patty Anderson noted the opportunity to put the Master Plan design on the web site and gather feedback that way.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Special Business, Item #1 Recreation Facility Supervisor Report

Jeanne Vestal gave a presentation regarding her position as Recreation Facility Supervisor. She commented on and displayed slides of the LifeTime Triathlon at Weaver Lake Park on August 27th, which had over 1,100 participants.

Jeanne Vestal noted that the Dome will be entering its 6th season of operation. She indicated the partner groups continue to meet their commitments in terms of usage. She noted that other groups have expressed interest in long term rentals, but we are generally able to only accommodate short term rentals. Jeanne Vestal stated that they will start setting up the Dome on October 17th and it will be operational by November 1st. Jeanne Vestal responded to a question about the turf - she indicated they had someone look at it at the end of last season. She noted that it should last several more years and that the Park crews have done a good job maintaining it.

Responding to a question about lighting at the Dome, Jeanne Vestal noted they did test some new lighting last year, but it did not provide what they were looking for. Mark Saari stated the size of the Dome and indicated it is an environment that LED lights are not ready for yet. The Director noted it makes financial sense to live the life of the current lights and then study what is available in terms of new technology.

Jeanne Vestal displayed slides and highlighted the various

concerts and events held at the Town Green. She noted some special events and indicated that they are seeing more weddings at the Point.

Jeanne Vestal noted it has been a year since Central Park opened. She displayed slides of the first wedding held in the garden and noted that the reception was held in the Phenow Pavilion. She noted that two other large events were Maple Grove Days and the Lifetime Esprit de She event. Responding to a question, Jeanne Vestal noted that the people who rent the space do their own decorating. She stated that from June 1st to the end of August, they had 30,811 splash pad users and 39,625 playground users.

Board Member Cunningham raised a question regarding the upcoming ice skating season and if they had a plan in place for skate sharpening. Jeanne Vestal noted that one of the things they learned last year is that they need to have a designated person for skate sharpening and that is their only job during their shift.

Chair Lewis noted that they have given Jeanne more things over the past few years and that she has done well in handling the additional responsibilities. He thanked her for all her efforts.

CONSENT BUSINESS

Consent Business

Motion made by Board Member Helvey, seconded by Board Member Syhre to approve the Consent Items as presented.

- A. August 18, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes**
- B. Disbursements**
- C. PT Employees**
- D. Summer Recreation & CC Usage Reports**
- E. Special Use Permit – Maple Glow in the Grove Run/Walk**
- F. Special Use Permit – MGCO Halloween Event**
- G. Fee Waiver Request – MGHS Hockey Boosters**
- H. Special Use Permit – Running Room 5K**
- I. Gifts and Donations**

Board Member Syhre indicated she would be abstaining.

Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, there were four ayes, no nays and one abstention with Board Member Syhre abstaining. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

New Business, Item #1 J&R Grimm Short Plat Subdivision

The Director presented the staff report regarding the J&R Grimm Addition subdivision. He noted where it is located and that staff was recommending a cash dedication.

Motion made by Board Member Cunningham, seconded by Board Member Helvey to approve the preliminary and final park dedication requirements on the J&R Grimm Addition plat pursuant to Maple Grove Subdivision Ordinance, Chapter 30:18, Provision of Land for Public Use:

- **Applicant shall fulfill the park dedication requirements on the plat with a cash dedication based upon the number of units multiplied by residential rate in effect at the time the plat is released by the City for recording.**
- **Applicant may pay the dedication at any time after the final plat has been approved by the City Council but must pay it prior to the City's release of the final plat for filing with the County. The final cash dedication is based on the rate at the time the dedication is paid. Rates are reviewed annually by the City Council at their first meeting in February. This may affect the final cash dedication requirements.**

Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, there were five ayes and no nays. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion made by Board Member Helvey, seconded by Board Member Syhre to adjourn.

Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, there were five ayes and no nays. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Foggia, Recording Secretary and
Chuck Stifter, Director
Parks & Recreation Board
City of Maple Grove