

Maple Grove Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2014

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by CAC Member Bob Joiner. The meeting started at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present

Leslie Bender	Lorraine Gresser	Bob Joiner
Harry Kennedy	Tim Klevar	Steven Maas
Joe Piket	Kevin Rebman	Don Skoglund

Members Absent

John Beacham, Stephen Gill, Greg Hulne, Joan Masberg

Others Present

Councilmember Phil Leith and CAC City Staff Liaison Mike Opatz

Minutes

The minutes for the June 11, 2014 meeting were approved.

Area Reports

- Lawndale Lane construction and concerns about Elm Road closure / no thru traffic. Items will be referred to Jupe Hale, the City of Maple Grove transportation operations engineer, with a request for details.
- Left turn light (going west on County Road 30 to turn southbound on Dunkirk Lane) has become very short in the last month, noticed primarily in the evening. Same circumstances at Main Street and Elm Creek Boulevard.
- Roundabouts on Weaver Lake Road – proposed at Niagara Lane and near Weaver Lake School.
- Inquiries made about street sweeping this fall and Parks and Recreation mowing along trails.

Youth Sports Discussion

Harry Kennedy who has been in contact with / attended meetings of some of the various athletic associations stated that some groups are apprehensive and can be hard to get information from.

Some areas of interest related to youth sports include: traveling vs. house; background checks; fees; team reputation.

Harry provided a handout and mentioned the various organizations: OMGAA – baseball/softball; OMGBA – basketball; Maple Grove Youth Football; OMGHA – hockey; MapleBrook Blast – soccer, and then tennis and wrestling. It was stated that some of these organizations have state governing boards.

Discussion took place on the usage of the dome by soccer and baseball. It was stated that these organizations put up 10% of the funds, they have 500 hours in renting dome time/space, and contribute \$300,000 between the

two teams.

The suggestion was made to have the organizations attend a future CAC meeting.

Second sheet of ice at Community Center, 80/20 for City/OMGHA. OMGHA is committed to renting 1,800 hours and up to 2,200 hours. Would be good to find out how much is available for open skating, non-sport use.

OMGBA has an 80/20 arrangement as well. Paid \$1 million upfront and then pays \$125,000 towards operations. The addition of the three gyms at Maple Grove Junior High should provide for 90 more practices for the basketball teams. Mention was made that it would be interesting to know if equal time is given for house vs. traveling teams.

Mark Saari in the Maple Grove Parks and Recreation Department will be providing Harry Kennedy exact figures for the costs of the facilities, but in general it was thought that: \$8.5 million for basketball; \$7.8 million for second sheet of ice; \$5 million for sports dome. The question was asked about the length of the agreements for the associations and facilities.

The suggestion was made to invite sports groups to individual CAC meetings.

The comment was made that it seems there is more politics in the traveling teams. The question was asked what does CAC want outcome to be or where to go with this topic.

Since the City has provided funds, monitor associations to make sure resources are used equitably, particularly for traveling teams. Make suggestions/expectations for conduct. Ask about selection process for teams. Have an impartial/outside organization to evaluate athletes for team selection.

Discussion took place on City's / CAC's role, and is there one. Shouldn't overstep bounds. Possibly put focus on code of conduct, and the community has expectations.

CAC has right to ask questions/invite in as the associations came to CAC meetings when they wanted funding. Invite back to see some of their processes, code of conduct, background checks, equity of resources, and house vs. traveling team.

The suggestion was made to look at operating agreements between the City and the athletic associations. It was mentioned that associations don't work together such as coordinating tryouts with other sports

activities which results in scheduling conflicts.

Suggestion was made that maybe some of the athletic programs could be moved to Parks and Recreation. When inviting the associations to a future CAC meeting, possibly take the approach of saying Parks and Recreation is looking at expanding programs.

Take a look at the association's philosophy and operating principals such as traveling vs. house teams—are they treated equally, funded equally. Does the house team fees subsidize the traveling teams. Also look at player development and reputation.

If City is providing facility, staffing, funds, then City has the right to review. What are the repercussions if the association does not meet the terms of the agreement with the City. Make recommendations for association operations.

Invite to future CAC meeting with open dialogue. Ask how they are doing as well as ask about code of conduct for both athletes and parents.

Comment was made that the City should not be involved with the way the association operates. Felt that would be overstepping and City cannot get involved in how they run their business.

CAC could make recommendations for conduct, safety and use of facilities.

The suggestion was made to create a list of general questions and give to each association prior to coming to a CAC meeting. A letter of invitation would come from the City / CAC. CAC members should send their questions via email to CAC member Harry Kennedy. Discussion ensued on question topics.

Other Business and Updates

- Recognition was made that the Mayor and City Council have done all they can regarding Councilmember Sargent. Discussion took place about charter/statutory city. Suggestion was made to contact state elected officials so that a City has a course of action for removal of a Councilmember. The group also recognized the time spent and commitment that Councilmembers make.
- Money Magazine named Maple Grove #2 Best Place to Live in America.
- 610 Groundbreaking taking place on October 16th.
- Houlihan's site has been purchased, will be demolished, and another facility constructed.
- Recognition at recent Council meeting of police, fire, and paramedics for saving life of an 8-year old this past spring.

Mention was made of defibrillators in Police vehicles.

- Discussion/Q&A on general development /projects.

The meeting ended at 8:35 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Morris
Minute Secretary