

1. Roll Call

Park Board members in attendance included, Patty Acomb, Tim Goodyear, Denny Lambert, Marvin Puspoki and Elise Raarup. Staff members in attendance included Geralyn Barone, Dave Johnson and Perry Vetter.

Vice - Chair Acomb called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Goodyear requested a change related to potential locations for a dog park location in the city. He requested that the Minutes reflect "Goodyear suggested that the board eliminate two locations from consideration, Tower Hill Park and Lake Minnetoga. He indicated that he felt the remaining three locations had at least minimal potential".

Raarup moved and Puspoki seconded a motion to approve the meeting Minutes of December 1, 2010 as amended. All voted "Yes." Motion carried.

3. Citizens Wishing to Discuss Items Not on the Agenda

None.

4. Business Items

A. Adoption of the 2011 Park Board Strategic Plan

Johnson provided an update of the park board's review of their 2011 Strategic Plan conducted at the December 1, 2010 meeting. He noted that the only change related to the addition of Objective #7 to the goal of enhancing long-term park board development that read "Review the Park Board's process for conducting business and develop recommendations for future changes". Johnson noted that this objective was called for to address a request Lambert made at the joint meeting with the city council. Lambert shared his thoughts with the board, noting that he felt the park board should review its meeting process including how often they meet and what items they review.

Barone suggested the possibility of conducting an analysis of the park board's strengths and weaknesses.

Hearing no further requests for changes to the 2011 Strategic Plan, Acomb entertained a motion. Lambert moved and Goodyear seconded a motion to adopt the 2011 park board strategic plan as presented by staff. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

B. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair positions

Acomb noted that Park Board Chair Patrick Robben had submitted his resignation due to an employment opportunity that would no longer allow him to continue his service on the board. She requested input from the board to appoint the new chair and vice-chair positions for 2011 beginning with the February 1, 2011 meeting.

Lambert provided some possible options for the Chair position, including appointing Goodyear who he noted served effectively through 2009, or nominating Vice-Chair Acomb to move to the Chair position. Lambert added that he would be willing to serve in the position of Chair for a year if the 2011 Vice-Chair would be willing to move into the position of Chair in 2012.

Goodyear indicated that he would prefer not to serve as Chair during his final two-year term and suggested that Acomb be appointed to that position if interested and a new member serve as Vice-Chair to provide more members with valuable experience. He asked if other members had any interest.

Puspoki indicated that he agreed with Goodyear and asked that he not be considered this year for either position so that he can gain more experience.

Raarup agreed with Puspoki and Goodyear, adding that Acomb should not feel pressure to be Chair if not comfortable. Raarup added that her schedule would make it difficult to serve in either position in 2011 but she may have interest in future years.

Acomb expressed her appreciation for the confidence expressed, however she did not feel prepared at this time and suggested that Lambert be appointed as Chair for 2011. With that, Acomb moved and Puspoki seconded a motion to appoint Lambert as Park Board Chair for the term of February 1, 2011 thru January 31, 2012. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Goodyear moved and Lambert seconded a motion to appoint Acomb to the position of Park Board Vice-Chair for the term of February 1, 2011 thru January 31, 2012. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

5. Park Board Member Reports

Lambert asked if when the former senior craft shop in Minnetonka Mills is demolished, could additional parking space be provided that would benefit Big Willow Park where parking is at a premium. Vetter noted that the general plan for parking in connection to new Minnetonka Mills Park is to have multiple parking areas scattered throughout the creek corridor, adding that parking at the location Lambert was referring to would serve the same purpose.

Raarup commented that she attended the closing sale for the Tonka Cycle store in Glen Lake and overheard residents commenting about enjoying Minnetonka as a natural environment and not a typical city. She added that concern was expressed by some that Minnetonka might be headed in a different direction, citing the business changes occurring in Glen Lake. Johnson and Barone noted that they know of no changes in Glen Lake that had any involvement from the city but would check into the situation and report back to the board.

6. Information Items

The board reviewed the draft park board annual report prepared by staff and did not request any changes.

Barone reported that the city is negotiating to purchase two homes in the Minnetonka Mills area at 12851 Burwell Drive (across the creek from the former senior craft shop) and 3444 Creekview Terrace (north of the new Minnetonka Mills Park). Vetter indicated that, if purchased, the Creekview lot would provide valuable access to Minnetonka Mills Park for residents to the north.

Lambert asked when the homes the city owns along Minnehaha Creek to the west of Big Willow Park will be demolished. Vetter indicated that the work is scheduled for February 2, 2011.

7. Upcoming Park Board Agenda Items

Johnson reminded the board that the February 2, 2011 meeting will be held at the Glen Lake Golf Course and will include a tour of the cross country ski trail which is jointly operated by the city and Three Rivers Park District. He noted that the tour of the ski trail will begin at 4:30 p.m., followed by the regular meeting at 6 p.m.

8. Adjournment

Acomb adjourned the meeting at 7:47p.m. The board proceeded to the Williston Center for a tour of the facility's ongoing renovation.