

**CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

**June 24, 2020
6:30 PM**

The June 24th, 2020 meeting was held via Zoom and complied with all requirements of Minnesota State Statute 13D.021.

Due to the Governor's Emergency Declaration, the Mayor has determined that in-person meetings during this pandemic are not practical or safe. All meetings of the City Council and other City-governed boards and commissions will be held by telephone or other electronic means until further notice. (Minn. Stat. 13D.021)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lloyd Grachek called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Lloyd Grachek, Chair
Laura Greenlee-Karp, Vice Chair
Larry Amsden
Tim Cole
Heather Haas (absent)
Ingrid Koller
Sue Springborn
Nancy Thorsen
Sarah Zahradka

Ex-Officio: Open

Council Liaison: Candy Petersen- (absent)

Staff: Jill Officer
Keith Stachowski
Debra Gustafson

III. ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Commissioner Springborn, seconded by Commissioner Koller with all present voting aye, motion carried to adopt the agenda.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approve the May 27, 2020 regular meeting minutes

On motion by Commissioner Thorsen, seconded by Commissioner Zahradka with all present voting aye, motion carried to approve the May 27th meeting minutes.

V. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Note: This is a courtesy extended to persons wishing to address the Commission concerning issues that are not on the agenda. This discussion will be limited to 15 minutes.

Kjersten/Steve- Silver Lake area residents'- presented an overview of surrounding city pickle ball processes. Specifically Shoreview –charged fee, reserved times for different skill level and competitiveness level. Equipment provided.

Joyce from Silver Lake Improvement Association- talked about the current weed control at Silver Lake, Dorothy Park canoe area, Casey Lake and Silver Lake fishing docks. A survey is done in April, permitting is submitted to DNR. Homeowners can sign up for treatment individually. City Council pays for ½ of the cost currently for public areas. Stachowski mentions it may be added to the park maintenance budget next year. Committee discussion on what areas to do weed control: Commissioner Koller noticed Silver Lake beach is narrowing and Dorothy canoe area, Commissioner Springborn considers weed control a priority and would like it taken care of, Commissioner Greenlee-Karp brings up to consider this is not a one time expense.

On motion by Commissioner Koller to budget up to \$1800 for treatment of leafy weeds/milfoil at Silver Lake Beach, Dorothy park area, Silver Lake fishing pier and Casey Lake fishing pier. Commissioner Thorsen seconds motion, all present saying aye. Motion carried to proceed with the treatment of weeds at aforementioned areas.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

VII. COMMISSION BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Silver Lake Splash- fundraiser not happening this year. Commissioner Koller suggests making a note in the newsletter that the Splash is not happening due to COVID-19 but offer an opportunity to donate to the beach fund. Commissioner Grachek suggests signs at the beach on the building with such info and Stachowski suggests possibly having area children make posters. No lifeguards are planned for this year.

B. Hause Park Tennis Court Resurfacing- Stachowski presents quotes for resurfacing of courts ranging from \$11,600 to \$18,500, also recommending new net posts. Commissioner Springborn points out with the Silver Lake courts being used for pickle ball it would be beneficial to have these as tennis –Stachowski suggests offset times as Hause would have pickle ball also. Commissioner Thorsen agrees-with Silver Lake getting so much use the updates are needed and recalls the resident's in the area wanted to keep them. Commissioner Cole would like to see them redone, especially with the other improvements already made to the park. Stachowski noted 40' pathway not included.

On motion by Commissioner Cole to invest up to \$18,500 for resurfacing, recoating, sealing and new net posts for Hause Park tennis/pickle ball courts. Commissioner Thorsen seconds motion, all present saying aye. Motion carried to proceed with the resurfacing and preparation of Hause park tennis courts for tennis and pickle ball.

C. Social Media Discussion- use of city logo on Park and Rec facebook page.

Communications Consultant Kari Erpenbach sites the use of the North St Paul's city logo on the Park and Rec facebook page website. The website has city information but is not city run. Suggested changes would be to remove city logo, add Kari as an admin to change items that are not approved or remove website. Discussion tabled, decision to be made at a later date and Kari to make some recommendations.

D. Rotary Park Wayfinding Signage- Gustafson presented information to fund wayfinding signage located in Rotary Park by Gateway Trail. Rotary has \$3000 funding currently, expecting \$1000 more but needs \$3000 more for the kiosk. Signage may include event area, business area, trail information, etc. Rotary wanted to include trail and landmarks. Commissioners Cole and Koller inquired about the cost for updates. Stachowski advised to stay away from paper pamphlets, Koller suggested a QR code which is easily updated.

On motion by Commissioner Cole to provide up to \$4,000 for development of the Rotary Park sign with the stipulation that the Parks and Recreation logo be included on the sign. Commissioner Thorsen seconds motion, all present saying aye. Motion carried to provide funding toward the Rotary Park sign.

E. Outdoor Park Trail Exercise Equipment –table discussion to gather more information. Suggested to look at surrounding cities equipment. Formed sub-committee to look into options consisting of Commissioners Grachek, Zahradka, Cole and Koller.

F. Polar Park playground –currently have used \$2600 of \$14,000 funding. Remaining money for playground. Additional funding possibly needed for pathway option from Shawnee to park runs about \$5000.

On motion by Commissioner Grachek to provide up to \$5,000 for a pathway from the north side of Polar Park from Shawnee to playground equipment. Commissioner Koller seconds motion, all present saying aye. Motion carried to provide funding toward the pathway at Polar Park.

G. Food truck/Summer Concert/Star Watch- National Night out rescheduled to October 6th –same date as Star Watch. Rescheduling of Star Watch to Monday the 12th. Possible virtual option. Next concert in the park is scheduled for July 23rd. Food truck night scheduled for July 22nd. Hand sanitizing stations at park. Will try new layout to help with distancing, 9 trucks so far. Area for PRC meeting will be taped off.

H. Future Parks and Rec Meeting- Next meeting will be at Hause Park –bring a chair. Northeast corner of park. August meeting outdoors, September back indoors.

I. 2020 PRC Goals –signs for park that have rules that apply to all parks. Poly signs are easy to maintain and/or replace.

J. 2020 Park Improvement Plan Update- when walking through parks make note of what improvements you'd like in the next 5 years. Commissioners Koller, Springborn and Thorsen have visited 5 parks. Keep moving towards park accessibility, even small change, and be strategic in locations and what parks get updates. Suggestion of putting information on website which parks are more accessible. Other ideas for improvements are a building at Northwood and looking at new areas for parks.

VIII. REPORTS FROM STAFF

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Commissioner Koller, seconded by Commissioner Springborn with all present voting aye, motion carried to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Next meeting: July 22nd, 2020 – Hause park.