



**City of Blaine
Anoka County, Minnesota
Minutes**

10801 Town Square Drive
Blaine, MN 55449

Park Advisory Board

*Chair Jeffrey Bird, Prad Das, Jeff Lester, Tonya Lizakowski,
Rex Markle, Kristofer Paulseth and Tom Walsdorf*

The Park Board is an advisory body to the city council. One of the board's functions is to hold public meetings and make recommendations to the city council. For each item, the board will receive reports prepared by city staff, provide the opportunity for public response, conduct board discussions and make recommendations. The city council, however, makes all final decisions on these matters.

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

1. Call To Order

The Blaine Park Advisory Board met in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, November 27, 2018.

1. Chair Bird called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Staff Present: Nate Monahan, Recreation Manager

Present: 7 - Chair Bird, Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Varian, Commissioner Markle, Commissioner Lizakowski, and Commissioner Paulseth

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Walsdorf, and Commissioner Walsdorf

3. Approval of Minutes

3.-1

**APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 23, 2018 PARK BOARD
MINUTES**

Attachments: [10-23-18 Pk](#)

Commissioner Lester noted on page five the last two paragraphs the speaker was Commissioner Paulseth.

Commissioner Paulseth noted the meeting was called together by Vice Chair Markle. The meeting was also adjourned by Vice Chair Markle.

Motion by Commissioner Markle to approve the minutes of October 23, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Das. Motion

approved unanimously.

Aye: 7 - Chair Bird, Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Das, Varian, Commissioner Markle, Commissioner Lizakowski, and Commissioner Paulseth

4. Open Forum for Citizen Input

Chair Bird opened the Open Forum at 7:06 p.m.

No one appeared to address the Commission.

Chair Bird closed Open Forum at 7:07 p.m.

None.

5. New Business

5.-1

PICKLE BALL COURTS AT HIDDEN PONDS PARK

Attachments: [HP- Pickleball Courts](#)

Recreation Manager Monahan reviewed the results of the soil testing were reviewed by City Engineering staff and concluded that the soils in the area are in good condition to construct pickle ball courts in the tested area. Engineering did recommend the area be excavated down one and a half feet to add more sandy type soils to create a good base for the courts. Staff is looking for direction to add \$75,000 into the Parks CIP for the addition of four pickle ball courts at Hidden Ponds Park. Staff also recommends hiring a consultant for the project.

Chair Bird asked the number of courts that would be created and whether they would be fenced or not. Mr. Monahan stated four courts are recommended. They will not be lighted at this time. Parking would be on-street and the courts will be fenced. A petition had been submitted by the neighborhood requesting the pickle ball courts. Dedicated pickle ball courts are in big demand.

Commissioner Das asked about the \$75,000 and Mr. Monahan stated that would include the consultant.

Commissioner Markle asked about the gazebo and if that was existing. Mr. Monahan stated the gazebo is existing and the basketball court should be overlaid with asphalt and this would be included in the alternate bid. The hoop is on the west side of the proposed pickle ball courts. The area outlined on the drawing is larger than the courts will actually be but this was the area that was soil tested.

Mr. Monahan noted the \$75,000 has been placed in the CIP that will reviewed during the next item on the agenda.

Discussed.

5.-2

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE 2019 - 2023 PARKS FIVE
YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR PARK
DEVELOPMENT FUNDS**

Attachments: Parks CIP 2019 -2023 (Nov2018)

Recreation Manager Monahan reviewed the City maintains a five-year capital improvement plan for park development funds. The capital improvement plan is a flexible plan based upon long-range physical planning and financial projections. Flexibility is achieved through an annual review and revisions as necessary. All improvements listed in the plan are proposed and must come back to the Park Board for review and recommendation to the City Council. The City Council then makes all final decisions on capital improvements.

Revenue for the capital improvement plan comes from park dedication fees required of all new residential (approved 2019 \$4,449/unit), commercial (\$8,704/acre), and industrial (\$6,702/acre) development. The residential fee will go back to 65% going to parks and 35% of the fee going to open space in 2019. All Commercial and Industrial fees go to parks.

Revenue from park dedication fees can only be used for development of new parks and trails, for new improvements to community parks used by all residents and for improvements to neighborhood parks that serve new growth. It cannot be used for park maintenance.

In 2019 the internal borrowing payments will continue as scheduled with \$450,000 payment and interest payment of \$31,000 for the Land of Lexington Athletic Complex. Also, the final WAC repayment of \$45,505 and final Park Dedication Credits to Paxmar developer of \$350,000 will be completed from LAC. Also, in 2019, we will carry over the Parks Master Plan project (\$75,000) as well as the development of Sanctuary Preserve Park (\$140,000).

Mr. Monahan noted the New Digital Park Sign at LAC (\$75,000), new possible Pickle Ball Courts (4) at Hidden Ponds Park (\$75,000) and in 2020 staff may explore the purchase of land for the final park West of Lexington and North of Main. This could get the City a better price on the land before development gets up in that area and a better piece of land

instead of what a possible developer would give the City in the future. Currently in the area there are several five- and ten-acre parcels that the City could contact land owners to inquire about negotiating a possible sale if they are willing to sell the land. A larger park would be beneficial in this area.

Chair Bird asked about the last park budgeted at \$500,000. He asked if it was a duplication of the playground at the new elementary school north of Main Street. Mr. Monahan stated the new school playground would serve the area east of Lexington. The west side is north of Legacy Creek Park. The \$500,000 would be for the land acquisition only.

Commissioner Lester asked how many units would go in that area and Mr. Monahan stated it depends how they are broken up and if the developer wants to have as many lots as possible or go with somewhat larger lots. Mr. Monahan showed a map of the area. There have been calls regarding expanding the Legacy Creek Park playground to City Staff. The area should be fully built by 2025. If waiting for the developer to give park land to the City, the quality of the park land would not be as high as if the City were to purchase the land.

Commissioner Markle asked if \$300,000 per year in 2021 and on reflects the development in that area. He asked if this would be a larger neighborhood park and Mr. Monahan agreed. Commissioner Markle stated he is in support of the plan.

Commissioner Das asked about the park dedication fees going down in 2020 and 2021. Mr. Monahan stated the City should be built out by 2025. These numbers can also increase by apartment development. Commissioner Das asked how the parks would be maintained after 2025. Mr. Monahan stated the next item to be discussed is the Parks and Trails Levy. This will be used to maintain the 66 parks and the BWS. Commissioner Das was concerned about the maintenance of this larger park. Mr. Monahan noted some improvements to Aquatore and Happy Acres could be considered capital such as a performance shelter in Aquatore Park. Commissioner Das asked if the parcel is land is purchased could it be sold back to the developer. Mr. Monahan stated the City could do that as long as it isn't designated as park land and put into the park ordinance. Commissioner Das asked about the digital park sign and Mr. Monahan stated it would be on Lexington to promote programs, city functions, etc. Commissioner Das asked if advertisements for businesses can be added to bring in some revenues. Mr. Monahan stated staff can look at that to try to recoup some of the initial investment.

Chair Bird recapped the CIP shows for the next five years a projection of income based on development. He is concerned there is a balance for items going forward.

Commissioner Markle asked about the anticipated funds from the levy and how they would be managed. Mr. Monahan stated it would be a five-year plan and separate funding source, similar to the CIF. Replacements were done out of the CIP for Aquatore Park as it was a community park serving the greater good of the City. Commissioner Markle asked about the timing of the levy. Mr. Monahan stated it will be reviewed during the next item on the agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Markle, to recommend the City Council approve the 2019 – 2023 Capital Improvement Plan for Park Development Funds. Motion seconded by Commissioner Lizakowski. Motion approved unanimously.

Aye: 7 - Chair Bird, Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Das, Varian, Commissioner Markle, Commissioner Lizakowski, and Commissioner Paulseth

5.-3

RECOMMENDATION OF THE 2019 - 2023 PARKS AND TRAILS LEVY

Attachments: Parks and Trails Levy Budget 2019-2023

Recreation Manager Monahan reviewed in 2018, the City Council began to levy for existing Parks and Trails to replace the expiring CIP fund that the City used to maintain the Parks and Trails. The current plan of projects was provided for Park Board review. Mr. Monahan noted the carry over projects from 2018 are Happy Acres Park Pedestrian Bridge (\$120,000) will be moved into 2019 and Blaine Baseball Complex Miracle League Field (\$25,000) will be moved to the 2019 budget. The Miracle League Network will be assisting in the expense (\$20,000) for the field with possibly more toward the \$150,000 replacement. The Blaine Baseball Complex Playground is planned to be replaced in 2019. Other items to be done in 2019 are the Quail Creek playground replacement, Happy Acres pedestrian bridge, and Happy Acres parking lot.

Chair Bird asked if this is a use it or lose it or does a balance carry over. Mr. Monahan stated it can be carried over if needed. The revenue will be increased in 2020 to \$400,000. Chair Bird noted the Park Board is moving from a Construction Board to a Maintenance Board.

Commissioner Das asked about the interest negative (\$750) and Mr. Monahan noted that was an error removed by the Finance Director. This levy is from City property tax. Mr. Monahan noted this is a separate line

item solely for parks and trails.

Commissioner Lizakowski asked if the 2020 increase to \$50,000 is in case things come up and Mr. Monahan stated it is there just in case.

Commissioner Markle asked if this fund is the CIF fund and Mr. Monahan stated it was the CIF fund and will now be called as the Parks and Trails Levy.

Commissioner Lester asked how the Commission will prioritize what gets done. Mr. Monahan stated the playgrounds are on a plan of replacement every 20 years. The plan is laid out through 2030.

Motion by Commissioner Das, to recommend the City Council adopt the 2019 – 2023 Parks and Trails Levy Plan for park improvements with deletion of \$750 under interest earning. Motion seconded by Commissioner Lester. Motion approved unanimously.

Aye: 7 - Chair Bird, Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Das, Varian, Commissioner Markle, Commissioner Lizakowski, and Commissioner Paulseth

5.-4

SENIOR CENTER BUILDING UPDATE

Attachments: [Senior Center Location](#)

Recreation Manager Monahan showed a map of the senior center location. He provided a drawing of the inside of the building. The cost estimate is \$4M. This will be bid in the winter with construction starting in spring 2019 and completed in fall 2019. Construction will be stopped for a week during the Blaine Festival.

Chair Bird thanked the Mayor and Council for getting this done. Mayor Ryan made some comments and noted he is excited about the senior center. (not at microphone and inaudible for the most part).

Commissioner Das asked if the parking lot would be expanded and Mr. Monahan stated the senior center will have their footprint with the number of spaces they need. WSB is looking at parking for the senior center, Aquatore and Fogerty Arena with concepts coming to Park Board in January. Commissioner Das asked if the Village Bank construction will conflict with the city’s construction. (more inaudible comments by the Mayor)

Discussed.

5.-5

PARK BOARD UPDATES

Mr. Monahan provided updates on the following:

Nametags and shirts for Park Board Members - Mr. Monahan asked if the Commission is interested in nametage or shifts. The Planning Commission has shirts. Chair Bird asked Mr. Monahan to look into both.

Eagle Scout Project Gaga Pit at Quail Creek Park - Mr. Monahan showed a photo of a gaga pit. Staff requested composite wood be used. Plans will be forthcoming.

December Park Board Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Lester to not hold a December Park Board meeting. Commissioner Das seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Parks Master Plan Update - Updates will be brought to the Park Board at the January Meeting.

Morning at the North Pole will be held the next two Saturdays (Dec 1 and 8) and are full with only a couple of spots left at noon.

Indoor Farmer's Market is December 15. The market in January had 269 attendees. It will be held once a month.

Cookie Decorating will be held December 6. More inaudible comments.

Discussed.

Adjournment

Commissioner Das motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lizakowski seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Chair Bird adjourned the meeting 8:25 p.m.

Aye: 7 - Chair Bird, Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Das, Varian, Commissioner Markle, Commissioner Lizakowski, and Commissioner Paulseth